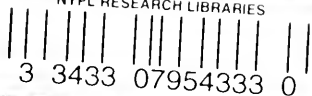


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A HISTORY
OF
GUILDHALL, VT.,

CONTAINING

SOME ACCOUNT OF THE PLACE—OF
ITS FIRST SETTLEMENT IN 1764, AND THE
PRINCIPLE IMPROVEMENTS MADE, AND E-
VENTS WHICH HAVE OCCURRED DOWN TO
1886—A PERIOD OF ONE HUNDRED
AND TWENTY TWO YEARS.

WITH

VARIOUS GENEALOGICAL RECORDS, AND BIOGRAPHICAL
SKETCHES OF FAMILIES AND INDIVIDUALS, SOME
DECEASED, AND OTHERS STILL LIVING.

TOGETHER WITH A BRIEF SKETCH OF

ESSEX COUNTY, VERMONT.

By **EVERETT CHAMBERLIN BENTON,**

A NATIVE OF GUILDHALL.

WAVERLEY, MASS.:

EVERETT C. BENTON, PUBLISHER.

1886.

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DEDICATION.

TO

MY FATHER,

CHARLES EMERSON BENTON,

THIS LITTLE BOOK

IS DEDICATED IN GRATITUDE

AND LOVE.

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INTRODUCTION.

Since the men of the north made their incursion into the empire of the Romans, they have been an aggressive and colonizing race, pushing their dominion into distant countries and overcoming their enemies. It is the history of an Anglo-Saxon Colony, pushed far out into the American wilderness, that this book relates. It is a story, the sequel of which will have to be written by the pen of some future annalist.

Long before Columbus discovered America this section was the home of an Indian sovereignty over a wide area: numberless generations of red men had planted corn to some extent on the fertile intervals below the fifteen miles falls, speared fish in the clear waters of the Connecticut, hunted game through the luxuriant forests and paddled their light birch canoes over the silvery waters of the beautiful lakes and streams. To them this region was Coos; or as it was afterwards known Upper Coos. In this historic locality lies the beautiful town of Guildhall, which we will try, as best we can, to give a history of; under difficulties from the fact that in the case of Guildhall, as well as other towns in those early times, the records were not fully kept, and of course much that would be of interest has been lost, and only those things that related to the public acts and doings of the early settlers is there any record of, and as the old people of the town at the present time are not to any great extent descendants of the early settlers, much that was known to their children and grand-children that would be of interest has been lost.

INTRODUCTION.

Among the objects that attract the attention of people in all countries, as they advance in civilization, few are sought with more avidity than the facts concerning their early history. In the pages that follow we think we have rescued from oblivion many facts which the lover of history will rejoice to know. The work, it is true, is local, but in it are described the character and deeds of people who were pioneers in the march of civilization, patriots in the day of danger, useful citizens in the time of peace.

We cannot but indulge the hope that not only those who still remain among the hills and valleys of their native land, but those also who have wandered from the good old town to find a home in different sections of the Union may receive some gratification from the perusal of the history of their ancestors.

This work has been in process of completion by the author since 1878 and we have spared no pains to make the book a thorough one; all facts concerning the history of the town have been sought for to the best of our ability and had we had the proper help from all who know interesting incidents in relation to the town the book would be undoubtedly of more value. We are sorry to add that some people who now are comprised among the inhabitants of the town, through what seems to us a curious indifference, or otherwise, neglected, and in some instances by their actions refused to help place facts in our possession from which to write this history; others did not see fit to fill out blanks sent them by mails or reply to a polite letter when in some instances we inclosed a stamp to pay the return postage, and it is no fault of ours that any one has been left out in the sketches of family history in this book as we have inserted all that we have been able to obtain.

INTRODUCTION.

In addition to the usual authorities consulted in preparing this volume we owe especial indebtedness to and the following is acknowledged: Miss Hemenway's *Vt. Gazetteer*; (which is a most valuable work, a series of books which only a woman of her extraordinary ability and perseverance could produce; long after the average woman of Vermont shall have been forgotten the labor of of Miss Abbie Maria Hemenway will be kindly remembered and her name honored for the great interest she took in promoting not only the historical interests of the State but by her kind acts toward all and for all alike.) The writers in the above mentioned book which we are under obligations to are: Mr. Milton Cutler's sketch of the town of Guildhall, and Hon. H. A. Cutting's various and valuable articles on the County of Essex. We also wish to thankfully acknowledge kind favors from Hon. Wm. Heywood, Hon. Wm. H. Hartshorn, Hon. Geo. N. Dale, Hon. Chas. A. Dana of New York, Hon. D. H. Beattie, Hon. Ossian Ray, Hon. P. R. Follansby, Dr. I. W. Watson, Secretary of the State Board of Health of New Hampshire, Mr. W. H. Bishop, Editor and Propr. of the "*Essex County Herald*," Rev. S. L. Hedges, Mrs. H. T. Cummings, Mr. and Mrs. E. S. Freeman, Mr. Hubbard Willard, Mr. Geo. Hubbard, Mr. L. A. Gran- nis, my father Charles E. Benton, my brother Jay B. Benton and my wife Willena R. Benton; also to the courtesy of several other gentlemen and ladies for important assistance in the preparation of these pages.

Waverley, Mass.,

Nov. 15th. 1886.

EVERETT C. BENTON.

HISTORY OF GUILDFALL, VERMONT.

CHAPTER I.

The Indian—Cartier—Champlain—Discovery of Vt.—Hudson—The Pilgrims—Fort Dummer, the first settlement in Vt.—Crown Point,---“Number Four”---Bridgeman’s Fort—Attempt to capture “No. 4”---Effort to make a settlement at Coos---Col. Lovell’s journey to Coos.---Capt. Peter Powers; his discovery of, and through the northern Connecticut Valley---Survey of the River Townships--Town grants by the Governor of N. H.--Maj. Rogers’ expedition.

Warm rays of a spring sun have caused the fierce clutches of a savage winter to yield its grasp, and beautiful spring enters upon the threshold leading to summer.

Gentle breezes are swaying the leaves of a beautiful and unbroken forest: the waters of the loveliest river on earth are gently rippling along its banks, merrily wending their way to — who then knew where? Suddenly the stream comes in contact with rocks, and madly the waters rush roaringly on, until the difficulty is past; then resuming their former peaceful course they move on, year after year, and century after century.

Tired and worn by the cold winter, which had confined him more or less closely to his wigwam for long and weary months, how the Indian rejoices at the return of spring: his heart is light and happy, as nimbly he steps into his canoe, and undisturbed, paddles to his heart’s content.

Fancy, one day, one of their number is seen forcing his canoe down the river at its greatest speed; every muscle is strained to its full capacity; we eagerly watch him: he passes the bend in the river, directs his course to the settlement above the falls, and landing, we hear him convey with joy the intelligence, that a higher order of beings have been seen at the north. These beings were none the less than a band of daring and courageous Frenchmen under Cartier, who early in the sixteenth century, directed their way to explore the northern latitudes of the land, to which Columbus had led the way in 1492.

On St. Lawrence's day, Cartier discovered a great gulf, to which the name of St. Lawrence was given.

The next year, he returned, entered the Gulf, and leaving his ships at anchor near the Island of Orleans, ascended the river, in boats, about three hundred miles. At this place he found the large Indian town of Hochelaga, where he arrived Oct. 2d. 1535. This place he called Montreal, which name it bears to the present time. Ascending a neighboring hill, a civilized man first viewed the lofty "Green Mountains" in the far distance, casting his eyes over the beautiful country, which for years was the battle field of many a hard and bloody fight, but now is peaceful, quiet, and free.

Cartier was received by the Indians with joy, and was treated with great respect. This was not only true of the Canadian Indians, but of every part of America; and their suspicions were not generally aroused, or hostilities

made, until the new comers had manifested their meanness, by most cruel acts of injustice and violence.

Cartier again visited Canada in 1540, and attempted to found a colony, but was unsuccessful; and the French made no further progress in this part of the country for more than fifty years.

In 1603, Samuel de Champlain sailed up the St. Lawrence, obtained what information he could from the Indians regarding the interior of the country, and returned to France, to procure assistance in establishing a colony.

In 1608, the French Court was induced to fit out for him, a fleet for this purpose, and in July, he arrived at a place led by the natives Quebec. Here he spent the following winter, in the course of which, his little colony suffered extremely from the severity of the climate. In the spring of 1609, Champlain left Quebec, accompanied by a party of natives for the purpose of exploring the interior of the country. He proceeded up the St. Lawrence, and Sorel Rivers, till he arrived at a large and beautiful lake, to which he gave his own name: proceeding still farther he reached another lake, smaller than the first, which he named St. Sacrament; but now it is called Lake George.

On the shores of this lake, the party fell in with the Iroquois: a skirmish immediately ensued, but some of the French being arquebusiers, it was soon decided in their favor. The Iroquois were put to flight, and fifty of their numbers were killed. This was the first time the Indians in these regions ever witnessed the effect of firearms; and it is probable

the panic produced in the astonished natives, contributed not a little to a favorable and speedy termination of the combat.

Thus, so early was Lake Champlain, and the western borders of Vermont discovered, and partially explored; although after this time more than a century elapsed before this tract of the country became inhabited.

While the French were founding their colonies in Canada the other European nations were not inactive. England, in 1607, made a permanent settlement on the James River, in Virginia, and also, at about the same time, started a colony in Maine. In the spring of 1609, Captain Henry Hudson, in the service of Holland, discovered and gave his own name to the Hudson River. He sailed up the river exploring the country as far as Albany, N. Y.

Possibly, at the same time that Champlain was near the head waters of the Hudson, the other European navigator was encamped but a few miles below. Strange that two adventurers, in the service of different Sovereigns, and approaching from different points of the compass, should so nearly meet in the vast wilds of America; each exploring country never before traversed by Europeans.

In 1614, the Dutch commenced a settlement where the city of New York now stands.

December 21st, 1620, the Pilgrims landed at Plymouth, Mass., and commenced a colony. It is useless here to rehearse all the hardships this colony suffered that winter; 101 persons comprised the colony when it started, and

when spring opened their numbers were reduced to 56.

As early as 1623, settlements were made at Portsmouth and Dover, N. H., and in 1633 they had penetrated the wilderness to the Connecticut River, and established themselves at Windsor, Ct. In 1635 a settlement was started at Springfield, and soon after at Deerfield, Mass.

It was nearly a century before a settlement was effected within the present limits of Vermont, owing to the fierce war which was waged between the English, and French and Indians. This short History will not permit us to describe this cruel and bloody war.

In 1724 Fort Dummer was erected by the English in Brattleboro. In 1731 the French came up Lake Champlain and established themselves in Adlison, erecting a fort on the west side of the lake, and nearly opposite, which they called St. Frederick; but afterwards it took the name of Crown Point.

As early as 1746, the English had extended up the Connecticut River and erected a fortress at *Number Four*, (Charlestown, N. H.) also erecting several smaller forts on the other side of the river, in the vicinity of Fort Dummer. Among these were Bridgeman's and Startwell's forts in Vernon: Bridgeman's fort was attacked June 24th 1746, by Indians, who killed 2, wounded 1, and took several prisoners, but were finally repulsed. The next year, however, the fort was taken, and destroyed.

In the year 1747, the settlement at No. 4 was abandoned by the inhabitants; the fort at that place was garrisoned

by thirty men. On April 4th, a party, consisting of three hundred French and Indians, surrounded the fort, and commenced an attack by firing upon it on all sides. This proving ineffectual, they next tried to burn the fort by setting fire to the fences and huts around it, and by discharging flaming arrows upon it; not being successful in this, they prepared a carriage, which was loaded with burning fagots; they pushed this before them, endeavoring by it to set fire to the fort, in this way, while it protected them from the guns of the garrison.

All these attempts failed, and at length an interview took place between the commanders; Debeline, the French leader, boasted of his superior numbers, expressed his determination to storm the fort, and described in glowing colors the massacre which would ensue if the fort was not surrendered. Stevens the commander of the garrison coolly replied: "*Je n'ai peur que vous, mais mes hommes ne sont pas effrayés de mourir.*" After this interview the attack was renewed for three days, after which, the French withdrew.

During the Colonial and Indian wars Vermont was the thoroughfare through which most expeditions proceeded, being situated at an equal distance from the French on the one hand, and the English on the other; it was constantly exposed to depredation of both. On this account the settlement of this section had been regarded as dangerous, nor was it until the conquest of Canada in 1760, that any considerable settlements were made.

This tract of country had previously been in the possession of the Indians. The western part was claimed

by the Iroquois; the northeastern parts and Lake Memphremagog (including Guildhall), by the St. Francis and other Canadian tribes; and the southeastern parts on the Connecticut River were regarded as belonging to the natives in the neighborhood of Massachusetts Bay.

Although the region was in some parts mountainous and unproductive, the forests were well stored with game, and the lakes, rivers and smaller streams abounded in excellent fish, which afforded subsistence to the savage state.

In the spring of 1752 it was proposed by the English to commence a settlement at "Cohos,"* and a party proceeded up the river for that purpose: but the St. Francis Indians compelled them to return. Their design was to cut a road from "No. 4" to Coos, and to lay out townships in that locality. They were to erect stockades, with lodgments for two hundred men, enclosing a space of fifteen acres, in the centre of which a citadel was to be erected, containing the public buildings, &c., and large enough to receive all the inhabitants and their movable effects in case of necessity. It seems the project embraced two objects, civil, and military; as they intended not only to settle the country, but to establish also a military post there.

Rev. Grant Powers says in his "History of the Coos Country"; "It is extremely doubtful whether that party ever reached their destination, if they ever left "No. 4". There were no returns made of this tour, and they certainly did not lay out the townships."

In the spring of 1754 the General Court of New Hampshire determined to send out a party to explore this

*Coos was spelled "Cohos" and "Cowass" in early days.

whitherto unknown region. Accordingly, Col. Lovell, Maj. Telford, and Capt. Pat. were sent out at the head of a company, and John Stark (afterward Genl. Stark) was their guide. They started from Concord, N. H., March 4th, 1754, striking the Connecticut River at Piermont, N. H., after about seven days marching; they however spent but one night in this region, making a retreat, and arriving at their starting point in thirteen days from their departure."

The cause of this short sojourn we do not know, but one night in the wilds of that part of the country could have returned no information to the Government as regards the Coos. They probably feared an Indian foe superior to their own numbers.

The Government of N. H. did not give up on account of this failure, but the same season Capt. Peter Powers, Lieut. Jas. Stevens, and Elisha E. Hale, took charge of a company to effect what had hitherto been attempted in vain". The company commenced their march on Saturday, June 15th, 1754.

In Rev. Grant Powers' "History of the Coos Country"[†] is published Capt. Peter Powers' journal, which he kept during his tour; this journal is not entire, some of the pages of the retreating of the expedition being lost. We take the liberty of adding the journal as he has it published.

[†] Grant Powers' "History of the Coos Country" has been examined by the author of this work, and found to be a valuable addition to the history of the region. It is published in the "New England Historical and Genealogical Register," Vol. 1, No. 1, 1877, and is also published in the "New England Historical and Genealogical Register," Vol. 1, No. 1, 1877.

"Saturday, June 15th, 1754. This day left Rumford (now Concord, N. H.), and marched to Contoocook, which is about eight miles: here tarried all night."

"Sunday, June 16. This day tarried at Contoocook, and went to meeting, and tarried here all this night."

"Monday, June 17. This morning fair weather, and we fixed our packs, and went and put them on board our canoes, about nine of the clock, and some of the men went in the canoes and the rest on the shore. And so we marched up the river Merrimack to the crotch, or parting thereof; and then up the Pemigewasset about one mile and a half, and camped above the carrying-place: which carrying-place is about one hundred rods long; and the whole of this day's march is thirteen miles."

"Tuesday, June 18. This day marched up the Pemigewasset River, about eight miles to Smith's River, and then east one hundred rods, and then north two hundred and twenty rods, to the long carrying-place on Pemigewasset River, and there camped."

"Wednesday, June 19. We marched on our journey, and carried across the long carrying-place on Pemigewasset River two miles north east, which land hath a good quality of large masts. From the place where we put in the canoes, we steered east, north east, up the river about one mile, and then we steered north east one mile, and north six miles, up to Sawheganet Falls, where we carried by about four rods; and from the falls we steered about north east to Pemigewasset interval, two miles, and from the beginning of the interval we made good our course north four miles, and there camped on a narrow point of land. The last four miles the river was extremely crooked."

"Thursday, June 20. We steered our course, one turn,

with another, which were great turns, west, north-west, about two miles and a half, to the crotch, or parting of the Penigewasset River, at Baker's River mouth; thence from the mouth of Baker's River, up said river north west by west six miles. This river is exceedingly crooked and good interval. Thence up the river about two miles north west and there we shot a moose, the sun about $\frac{1}{2}$ an hour high, and there camped."

"Friday, June 21. We steered up the said Baker's River with our canoes about five miles, as the river run, which was extraordinary crooked. In the after part of this day there was a great shower of *hail and rain*', which prevented our proceeding any further, and here we camped; and here left our canoes for the water in the river was so shoal that we could not go with them further."

"Saturday, June 22. This morning was dark and cloudy weather; but after ten of the clock, it cleared off hot and we marched up the river near the Indian carrying-place, from Baker's River to Connecticut River, and there camped, and could not go any further by reason of a great shower of rain which held almost all this afternoon."

"Sunday, June 23. This morning dark and cloudy weather, we marched up this river about one mile, and came to the Indian carrying-place, and by reason of the dark weather, we were obliged to follow the marked way, that way marked by Major Loywell and Captain Telford, and others from Baker's River to Connecticut River.

And this days march was about six miles; and we came between the two first Baker's Ponds. And it came on a great storm of rain, which prevented our marching any further. And on this days march we saw a considerable quantity of white pine timber, and found it

was something large, fit for thirty-inch masts, as we judged. But before this day's march, we saw no white pine timber that was very large, on this Baker's River, but a great quantity of small white pine, fit for boards and small masts. And on this river there is a great quantity of excellent interval, from the beginning of it to the place where we left this river. And it layeth of a pretty equal proportion from one end to the other: and back of the interval, there are considerable many large mountains."

"Monday, June 24. This morning it rained hard and all the night past, and it held raining all this day, and we kept our camp, and here we stayed the night ensuing, and it rained almost all night."

"Tuesday, June 25. Fair weather, and we swung our packs, the sun about an hour high, and we marched about two miles, and then steered our course north about twelve miles and came to that part of the Coos interval that is called *Moose Meadow*. And then steered our course up the river by the side of the interval, about north east and came to a large stream that came into the interval, which is here about a mile wide. The stream came out of the east, and we camped here this night. There are on this river the best falls and conveniences for all sorts of mills. These falls are nearly twenty feet perpendicular."

"Wednesday, June 26. This morning fair weather, and we marched up the interval to the great turn of clear interval on the westerly side of Connecticut River, and there came a great shower of rain, which held almost all this afternoon; and we camped by the river on the easterly side above all the clear interval: and this day's march was about 16 miles and very crooked." [It appears that the Little Ox Bow on the Haverhill side, and the Great Ox Bow on the Newbury side of the Connecticut River,

were cleared interval when the first settlers came in. They had been cleared and cultivated to some extent by Indians, and this is what the journal alludes to.]

"Thursday, June 27. This morning it was cloudy weather, and it began to rain, the sun about an hour high, and we marched, notwithstanding, up the river to Ammonoosuck River (now Lower Ammonoosuck River,) and our course was about north, distance about five miles: and we camped here, for the River Ammonoosuck was so high we could not go over it without a canoe; for it was swift water and nearly twenty rods wide. This afternoon it cleared off fair, and we went about our canoe, and partly built it. Some of our men went up the River Ammonoosuck to see what discoveries they could make: and they discovered excellent land, and a considerable quantity of large pines."

"Friday, June 28. This morning fair weather, and we went about the canoe, and completed the same by about twelve of the clock this day, and went over the river; and we concluded to let the men go down the river in the canoe, who were not likely to perform the remaining part of the journey, by reasons of sprains in the ankles, and weakness of body. They were four in number: and we steered our course for the great interval about east, north-east: and we this day marched, after we left the river, about ten miles. And the land was exceedingly good upland, and some quantity of white pine, but not thick, but some of them fit for masts." [The four men, referred to in the journal, it would seem, were about to take their chances upon the river, returning by the way of "No. 4."]

"Saturday, June 29. This morning was cloudy, but we swung our packs, and steered our course about north-west, ten miles, and came to Connecticut River. There it came over a rapid and we camped by the side of the river, and it

rained all this afternoon, and we kept our camp this night. The land was, this day's march, very good, and it may be said, as good as ever was seen by any of us. The common growth of wood was beech and maple, and not thick at all. It hath a great quantity of small brooks. This day and the day past, there were about three brooks fit for corn mills; and these were the largest of the brooks that we saw."

[It seems that the last two days' march was between the Connecticut and Amonoosuck Rivers upon the highlands of Bath, Lyman and Littleton, N. H., and we now find them camping in the southern part of Dalton, N. H.]

"Sunday, June 30. This morning exceeding rainy weather, and it rained all the night past, and continued raining until twelve of the clock this day; and after that, it was fair weather, and we marched along up Connecticut River; and our course we made good this day was about five miles, east by north, and there came to a large stream which came from the south east. This river is about three rods wide, and we called it *Stark's River*, by reason Ensign John Stark's being found by the Indians at the mouth of this river. This River comes into the Connecticut at the foot of the upper interval, and thence we travelled up the interval about seven miles, and came to a large river which came from the south east; and it is about five rods wide. Here we concluded to go no further with a full scout, by reason of our provisions being almost all spent; and almost all our men had worn out their shoes. This river we called *Power's River*, it being the camping place at the end of our journey; and there we camped by the river." [It seems that John Stark had been taken by Indians while on one of his hunting expeditions along this stream, which runs through Dalton, N. H., and is now called *John's River*, because Stark's name was John perhaps; but we think they had better have preserved the

original name, and this would have perpetuated a historical fact, and borne up a name that the whole Town would delight to cherish among them; but who is to know whether this is John Stark's River, or some other John's River? The river they called Powers' River is in Lancaster, N. H., and is now called Israel's River. This, too, we think, ought to bear the name they gave it, instead of a wandering, and perhaps a worthless hunter. Captain Powers was the first man of English descent, who ever visited this section for discovery. He did it in imminent peril and for the good of his country. How much more gratifying it would be to the present inhabitants of that town, and to all future generations of theirs, did they bear upon their river the name of the first man who ever by authority discovered their town! There has been much wrong in these things in many of our towns.

Our worthy ancestors, who bore the toils and went through the perils of exploring and settling our forests, and of subduing them, richly merited this cheap method of perpetuating a memorial of themselves. There is no record in the journal of any transaction on July 1st. It was probably spent in reconnoitering and viewing the adjacent country, and it is more than likely that members of this company crossed the river into Guildhall.]

Tuesday, July 2. Fair weather, and we thought proper to mend our shoes, and return homeward; accordingly we went about the same; and whilst the men were this way engaged, the Captain and 2 men marched up the river to see what further discoveries they could make, and they travelled about five miles, and there they discovered where the Indians had a large camping place, and had been making canoes, and had not been gone above 1 or 2 days at most; and so they returned to the rest of the men again about twelve of the clock; and then we returned, and marched down the river to Stark's River, and camped.

This afternoon it rained hard, but we were forced to travel, for want of provisions. This interval is exceedingly large, and the further up the larger. The general course of this river from north east by east as far as the interval extends." [The Captain and his two men penetrated as far as Guildhall Falls, it would seem, and at this place were over 150 miles from civilized habitations. And here they first fell upon the trail of Indians, where they had been preparing themselves canoes to enable them to descend upon the frontier settlements.]

"We Tues-day, July 3. This morning cloudy weather, and thundered; and after the sun an hour high, it rained hard, and continued about an hour, and then we swung our packs, and steered our course west south west, aiming for Amonoosuck River; and this day we marched about fourteen miles, and camped."

"Thursday, July 4. We marched on our course west south west, and this day we marched about twenty miles and camped."

"Friday, July 5. We marched about three miles to our packs at Amonoosuck, the same course we had steered heretofore; and we afterward went over Connecticut River and looked up Wells River, and camped a little below Wells River this night."

"Saturday, July 6. Marched down the Great River to Great Coos, and crossed the river below the great turn and clear interval, and there left the great river, and steered south by east about three miles, and camped. Here was the best of upland and some large white pines."

Here the journal stops; the remaining pages cannot be found. We may suppose that they returned the same way they came, with hostile Indians pressing hard in their rear;

for weeks from Belknap, but by the middle of August 1754, the Indians were committing their usual depredations at Belknap town and vicinity.

From 1754 to 1759 (the year Quebec fell into the possession of the British,) no efforts were made to discover or settle new territories; nor does it appear that much was done towards settling the northern Connecticut Valley in 1760; for our men were still in Canada. But in 1761, when the colonies no longer feared the French and Indians, the spirit of emigration from the older settlements revived, and summed up all that had been before. Men from Connecticut, Massachusetts, and New Hampshire were now preparing to transplant themselves into the then great western valley of the Connecticut.

Gen. Benjamin Wentworth of N. H., about this time sent a survey to be made of the Connecticut River for sixty miles, and three hundred to each side, laid out on each side, but further surveys were made on account of the numerous claims to grants; and in 1761, the year in which Gilfillan was defeated, no less than sixty townships of six miles square were granted on the west side of the Connecticut River above.

This survey caused it to be dangerous to give a brief sketch of each stage, as before the discovery of Gilfillan some people claiming land on the Indian waters were admitted to the same, and it is not probable that any Major

Rogers' famished men, as they fled from the infuriated Indians of the St. Francis Tribe in 1759. Possibly this may be the fact, but Capt. Powers' journal of an earlier date by some years, convinces us that the traditionary tales which have so long existed, are all apoeryphal.

The truth is, when Major Rogers disbanded his men for their greater safety, he appointed them to "rendezvous at the Upper Coos," which could not have been done, if the place had not been known. Some of Rogers' men, no doubt, made the Coos, and some passed through it, while others perished whose remains were found by the early settlers: tradition also tells us that valubles were hidden in the ground by these poor perishing men, and it is fresh in the minds of many how the territory of some of the meadows in the lower part of this Town, and vicinity, have been dug over— with what result?

Maj. Rogers left Crown Point Sept. 12, 1759, with two hundred men to destroy the St. Francis Indians. He came in sight of the village on the evening of Oct. 4th, and leaving his men to refresh themselves, he dressed himself in the Indian garb and went forward to reconnoitre the town. He found the Indians engaged in a grand dance, without apprehensions of danger. At four o'clock the dance was ended and the Indians retired, and at day-break the fatal blow was struck. The Indian method of slaughter was adopted: they were determined to revenge the blood of their friends and relatives and spared no

pains, completely destroying the village and its inhabitants. Of the three hundred souls, which the village contained, two hundred were slain on the spot, and twenty taken prisoners. The English lost only one killed and six slightly wounded.

Having reduced the village, they set out on their return with the five English captives retaken, and such articles of plunder as they could easily carry away. To avoid his pursuers he proceeded up the St. Francis River, and directed his course toward the Connecticut River. On his march he was several times attacked in the rear and lost seven men, but forming an ambuscade on his own track, he at length fell upon the enemy with such success as to put an end to further annoyance or pursuit. The men kept together until they had passed the easterly side of Lake Memphremagog. Their sufferings now began to be severe, not only from the excessive fatigues they had endured, but from hunger. Their provisions were expended, and they were a distance from any place of relief. Here Maj. Rogers divided his detachment into small companies, ordering them to "meet at the mouth of the Upper Amonoosuck."

In the meantime, Samuel Stevens and three others proceeded up the Connecticut River with two canoes from "No. 4" loaded with provisions; they landed at the mouth of the Passumpsic River, where "they encamped for the night;" but in the morning hearing the report of guns, and supposing it to be Indians, they reloaded and hastened

back. About noon Rogers arrived at the Passumpsic River, and observing a fire on an island, made a raft and passed over to it; but to his surprise and disappointment no provisions had been left; his men were so disheartened by this discovery that thirty six more died before the next day. Rogers then gave up the command of his men and told them "to take care of themselves."

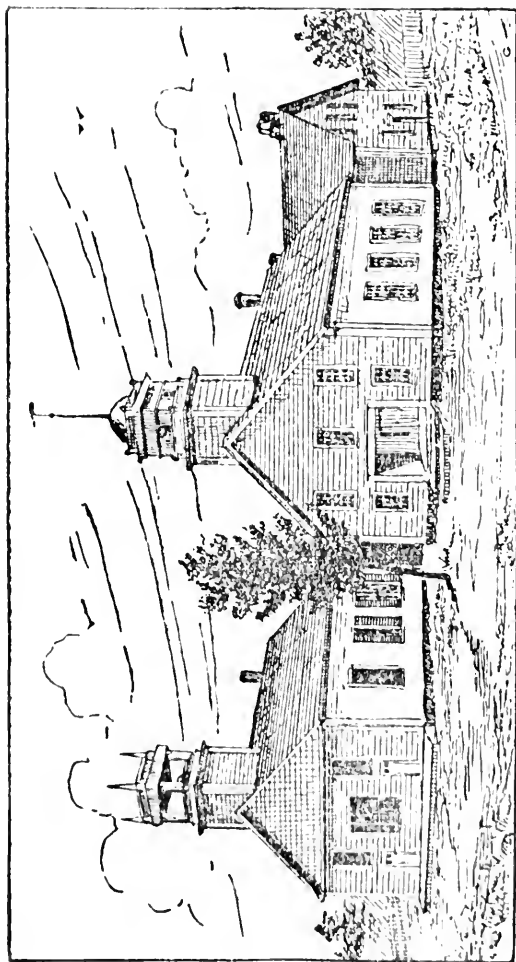
Some were lost in the woods, but Rogers and a few of his party, after almost incredible hardships, succeeded in reaching "No. 4."

Most authorities claim that Maj. Rogers and his *whole* company struck the Connecticut River at Barnet, following down the Passumpsic River; but we should judge from the facts, that the only part of that river the larger part of his company saw, is where it enters the Connecticut: the direction we claim Rogers took from Lake Memphremagog is this—he followed the Clyde River to Brighton, then the Nulhegan River to the Connecticut, and thus down to where he expected to find his provisions. Our reasons are—1st, this is the most direct route to the Connecticut, 2d, "he told them to rendezvous at the Upper Coos;" what section was then known as "Upper Coos?" and again, he ordered them to "meet at the mouth of the *Upper* Amonoosuck, 3d, various articles have been found in this section which must have been abandoned by these men as they passed along, or, possibly found on the very spot, or near, where they layed down to die. Mr. Wm. Hendrick found the barrel of a musket on the side of the hill in his pasture near the river in town, which resembles precisely those carried in this expedition.

Mr. Jonathan Crawford also found on his meadow in town, the iron part of a musket, similar to that found by Mr. Hendrick, and near which was a small mound, but there is no proof of its being the resting place of one of these brave men.

We do not claim that none of the expedition went by the way of the Passumpsic River, but that the larger part passed this way.





ESSEX COUNTY COURT HOUSE, CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, AND ACADEMY.

CHAPTER II.

Guildhall—Guildhall Village—Northumberland—Mill Brook—
Burnside Brook and Mountain—Cow Mountain—Scenery—
Natural History—Valley of the Connecticut.

Guildhall, in Essex County, lying on the west side of Connecticut River, opposite Northumberland and Lancaster in New Hampshire, is bounded N. by Maidstone, S. by Lunenburg, and W. by Granby; in lat. $44^{\circ} 32'$ N., and long. $5^{\circ} 14'$ E., and contains 19,477 acres.

The soil is generally good, more especially on the plains and intervals, and is easily cultivated; the hills are better adapted to grazing, but newly cleared land produces excellent crops. Agriculture is the main pursuit; cattle, horses, sheep, swine and poultry, wheat, corn, rye, oats, buckwheat, peas, beans, potatoes, maple sugar, &c., &c., are the principal products.

There is a village in the north-easterly corner of the town, containing the County Buildings, Congregational and Methodist Churches, Academy, Post Office, various Stores, Public Houses, Factories, Law Offices, Blacksmith Shop, &c., and is connected with Northumberland village, in N. H., by a toll bridge, which together with Guildhall village make quite a flourishing place: in Northumberland village are three Factories, two Stores, Post Office, Blacksmith Shop, Wheelwright Shop, and the Guildhall Station on the White Mountain Division of the Boston and Lowell Railroad.

The market facilities are good by means of the Boston & Lowell R. R., also the Grand Trunk R. R., which has a station at Groveton in Northumberland, N. H., about three miles distant.

There are no streams that afford water power of very much note excepting the Connecticut River; hence the quantities of lumber which this town and vicinity produced have been drawn to the river and driven to find a market south. There are many small streams in town, upon which mills have been erected at various times: Mill Brook, (formerly Spaulding's Brook) rises in Granby, and by a round about way runs through a part of Maidstone, and finally empties into the Connecticut, two miles below Guildhall Village; this brook took its present name from the fact that the first mills in town were constructed upon it. Burnside Brook rises back among the hills in town, and empties into the Connecticut about three quarters of a mile south of Mill Brook; it probably received its name from the circumstance of a Mr. Burnside, one of the early settlers of Northumberland, N. H., having at one time resided on the river bank directly opposite its mouth; the high mountain, around whose base this brook courses, was also named "Burnside Mountain."

Cow Mountain stands near the Burnside, and the two appear like twins; this mountain received its name in a rather queer way; in early days there lived in that part of the town known as the "North Road," a colored man called Baccus, or as he was more familiarly known,

“Old Bacchus;” he had resided there a number of years. He was a powerful man and fond of sport; usually very good natured, but had a sufficient amount of temper when offended. At length, for some unknown reason he broke up house-keeping, and retired to the forest upon this mountain; he took with him, however, another man’s cow without leave, and for many days sustained himself in the woods, baffling his seekers, but at length he was captured and during his imprisonment, he died.

SCENERY.

To the lovers of natural scenery, the valley of the Connecticut in this town cannot be surpassed in loveliness. The beautiful meadows, the abrupt headlands, in the distance the towering summits of the White Mountains, and the variety of timber land, all conspire in rendering it a changing scene and one of peculiar interest and beauty. A delightful view is to be seen from the bridge which leads to Northumberland; the broad river in the foreground, the charming meadows with here and there a tall elm tree, then the terraces, and best of all, those wonderful Percy Peaks in the background. So lovely a scene will scarcely be observed any where else in the world, and on a pleasant day, with the river smooth, which furnishes the observer a large and perfect looking glass, the landscape and its reflection are beyond describing. We give elsewhere a sketch of the Connecticut Valley two miles south of the Village. Many other views might be mentioned, but to gain a good idea of them requires a visit in person.

NATURAL HISTORY.

The reader will kindly bear with us upon this subject; we will give the best information upon it we can ascertain.*

ANIMALS. MOOSE OR ELK. This animal is quite extinct in this region, the last one killed near here, being in Brighton about the year 1858.

BEAR. The black bear is quite common in some localities near, doing considerable damage at times, but is seldom seen in town. His color is shining black, long hair not curled, and he presents a rather shaggy appearance.

Sometimes, when one is seen, the people turn out in large numbers, and frequently succeed in its capture. We will mention one bear hunt which occurred in town in 1842. As Mr. Richard and Geo. S. Boyce were milking their cows one morning, they heard a commotion among the sheep in the pasture, and looking in that direction saw a very large bear, who was trying to catch the sheep; Richard succeeded in getting his shotgun in working order, while Geo. S. contented himself with a stake; they had a very spritely dog which accompanied them in the hunt. They started up the hill, Richard with the gun going in one direction, and Geo. S. with the stake going another; their plan was to go around the bear and drive him down from the hill to the meadow. When they got above him, Geo. S. was the nearest, and as the bear was ascending the hill they must shortly come in contact with each other; as his brother had the gun, he thought he would let the bear pass, so stepping one side he let him go on until he

*In classification &c. we have followed Thompson.

met Richard, who fired at him, but the shot being small, did not have much effect; but the dog gave chase, and as other men and dogs came to the rescue, they succeeded in driving the bear to the meadow, where they finally killed him. This bear was one of the largest ever seen in town.

WOLF. Formerly numerous, but now seldom seen. In 1837 and 1838 they were very plenty.

DEER. This beautiful creature is fast disappearing, and the hunting of them is considered very rare sport. Hon. H. A. Cutting gives the following in one of his valuable articles in the *Vt. Gazetteer*, and we take the liberty of presenting it. "In 1855, a youngster, while bathing in the Connecticut above Guildhall Falls, saw a young deer trying to swim away from some dogs; the young man finally caught him, and he was so tired that he conducted him home without difficulty, where he kept him for a time and then sold him to the manager of a menagerie."

FOX. This very cunning, sly, and cautious animal is quite common; the color is generally dull red, with sometimes a tendency to black; a black one is occasionally seen, but they are rare. Upon the female devolves the entire care of the young; they breed in April. There is no animal which desires freedom more, and frequently when caught in a trap, it will gnaw off a foot to escape, and will refuse food, and die in captivity, rather than submit to restraint.

LYNX. Though much larger, it resembles the common cat, but has longer ears, and a shorter tail. It prowls about at night, and is very sharp sighted.

In Feb. 1867, Mr. Seth Meecham killed a lynx, or bob cat, which was of tremendous size, standing as high as a table, and was a very savage looking animal. For a long time the inhabitants had been greatly annoyed, and serious damage had been done; besides other depredations, fifty sheep had been killed. Mr. Meecham, who then lived in the village, kept an eye out for him, and one day in the early part of the winter saw its tracks within thirty rods of his house. He followed them at various times, and once saw marks in the snow where it had jumped thirty five feet; he finally set a bear trap in the "Frye pasture," so called, and after leaving it there for a time, he was successful in catching the lynx. Mr. Hubbard Willard told the writer that every winter one visits his pasture, and prowls around generally.

RACCOON. Looks somewhat like a fox, but is allied to the bear. Gray in color, with rows of black and white alternately, but most strongly marked on the tail. They are very destructive to property, as well as treacherous.

HEDGEHOG. This very peculiar creature is still plenty in this region. Their defence is to roll up into a ball, and the sharp quills which grow on their back serve as a very good fortress.

WOODCHUCK. A very annoying animal to the farmers in town, destroying much of their crops; it necessitates almost constant trapping and shooting to keep them within bounds.

SKUNK. Too familiarly known to need any description, for it resides in every locality in town in reality. We will

relate what has to us seemed a rather comical incident.

It was a warm summer night, and all was quiet; my brother Charles and myself were sleeping in a room which fronts on the street, and opposite the Methodist parsonage, in which at the time, Rev. S. F. Cushman and family resided. It seems that Mr. Skunk was rendering to himself very important service in the parson's henery; of course the hens at once began to cackle and make an unusual noise, which aroused the Rev. gentleman and family; he at once attired himself in his long dressing gown, and sallied forth to see what was causing the disturbance. Upon his arrival at the scene, it is needless to say he was shocked! and it became very evident to him, as he was unarmed, that he must at once retreat, which he immediately did. In the meantime his wife had dressed herself, and was going with a lamp to meet her better-half, who, (she mistrusted by the sounds which were coming from him,) was in trouble; they met in the shed; he at once called for firearms, but as they had none in the house, what was to be done! His eyesight was beginning to get poor at this time, or else the light was too strong for him, and grabbing a carving knife and fork, he started back; his wife pleaded with him not to attempt entering the field of conflict until reenforcements could be summoned. Frank, their son, was sent out upon that important service; he first struck for Benton's, but before arriving at this place, the B's. were aware of the trouble, and the one man and two boys, (all of whom were more inquisitive than brave,) were starting for the parsonage.

Upon meeting young Cushman, who announced what peril his "dad" was in, they immediately despatched him for Hod.* Quicker than a flash, the boy shot up the street; brawling at every step "a skunk is killing my father" &c, and for "help at the parsonage;" the village was generally aroused, and many at once hurried their steps to the aforesaid place. While this was transpiring the skunk had gone from the henery to a pile of wood which was in the yard. At length a company was formed and the order was given, as the Commander drew tighter the strings which were around his gown, to advance! They went directly to the spot where the first skirmish had taken place, but found no enemy; their sense of smell told them where to direct their course, and as the brave (?) men pulled over the wood, the parson awaited the chance to renew the fight, until at length we heard,—there he is—quick!! No sooner said than done; the fork was thrust, and the poor, and almost defenceless creature was carved! It is needless to say more, only permit us to add, that the skunk was not the only thing buried.

SABLE. Sometimes called marten and belongs to the weazel family; it is fast disappearing. Its food is principally birds and mice, and sometimes hares and partridges.

RABBIT OR HARE. These peculiar animals, varying in color from white in winter to reddish brown in summer, are numerous, but are fast decreasing in numbers.

*Mr. Horace E. Hubbard, who keeps a store in the village, and at that time slept in a small room in the rear part of his store, and it was generally known that he always kept a revolver near his bed in the night time.

WEAZEL. Also is white in winter, but is generally brown or black in summer, and are very shy. They are more or less annoying to the community, as they are in the habit of eating eggs and killing hens.

SQUIRREL. There are several kinds, and are numerous; they are sprightly, full of fun and frolic, and as quick in motion as a bird. The gray squirrel is much larger, and are not so plenty in town as the others. The red squirrel is the next in size, and is a daring fellow. The chipmunk, or striped squirrel is the most numerous, as there are more of them than all the rest combined; they are very timid, and possess the faculty of dodging a stone when one really believes it impossible. The flying squirrel is frequently met with, yet are not so common as the other species. Though called the flying squirrel, in reality it cannot fly, but has the power of spreading its body out in such a manner as to form a parachute, as it were, which enables it to sail along through the air for a short distance. All but the striped squirrel, which burrows in the ground, live in hollow trees, stumps, &c.

MOLES. These curious little creatures are so busy, that they really put themselves in advance of their size; they construct long galleries in the ground, through which they travel in search of food; as they seldom venture to the surface during the day, they are not often seen.

RATS. Are common, especially since the railroad was built in this locality, and are the greatest pest of any animal which is found in town, wanting the best of everything the farm affords.

MICE. There are several kinds. They were not common when the first settlers came, but are now plenty.

BATS. Are numerous, and very annoying if they get into an evening prayer meeting, or other similar gathering.

BEAVERS. Almost, if not quite extinct: the last one heard of in this part of the country, was taken in this county, not many years ago. The remains of their work is to be found on many of our streams.

OTTER. Also very rarely seen now days.

MUSKRAT. So called from their strong musky odor; they are quite plenty in our streams.

MINK. Not common, still they remain to some extent.

BIRDS. A complete list of birds found in our town, will not here be attempted. The following is a list of those which are most common and best known.

BIRDS OF PREY; eagle, hawk, and owl.

OMNIVOROUS BIRDS; Baltimore oriole, crow, blackbird, bluejay, raven, and titmouse.

INSECTIVOROUS BIRDS; warbler, butcher bird, phoebee, pewee, thrush, cat bird, wren, bluebird, and lark.

GRAMINIVOROUS BIRDS; sparrow, snow bird, linnet, finch, and crossbill.

YOKE-TOED BIRDS; cuckoo, and woodpecker.

BIRDS WITH SLENDER BILLS; nuthatch, creeper, ruby-throat, and humming bird.

HALCYONS; kingfisher.

SWALLOWS; martin, barn swallow, cliff swallow, white-billed swallow, bank swallow, chimney swallow, whip-poor-will, and night hawk.

PIGEONS; we have but one variety; the passenger pigeon.

GALLINACEOUS BIRDS; quail, and partridge.

WADING BIRDS; plover, crane, heron, and woodcock.

WEBFOOTED BIRDS; gull, goose, duck, teal, and loon.

FISHES. The variety of fishes in Guildhall is not very great, nevertheless we have almost all the varieties usual in the state, but some are rare and seldom seen.

The following are the names of those of most consequence; salmon trout, pike or pickerel, eel, perch, trout, pout, sucker, and dace.

SERPENTS. They are not so numerous here as in some parts of the state; we have however, the striped, black, and green snakes, and the adder. The most common is the striped snake, which is perfectly harmless.

AMPHIBIOUS REPTILES. Those most common are turtle or tortoise, two kinds, toads and frogs, six or more varieties, and lizards.

INSECTS. These are so numerous that we cannot catalogue or describe them all. Those most common are the grass hopper, potato bug, cricket, spider, ant, butterfly, bumble bee, honey bee, beetle, hornet, wasp, firefly, black fly, mosquito, snow flea, moth, and multitudes of bugs and worms.

BOTANY. Previous to settlement, this part of the country, like other parts of New England, was one continual forest, consisting of lofty trees intermingled with a great variety of shrubs and plants, and since clearing the country, many more have sprung up. We cannot, in this brief history, give a list of them.

MINERALS. The mineral wealth of the town is very limited, and the locality is not one of the fields of natural deposits of much value; there is, however, a bed of iron

ore in the west part of the town, which has as yet, never been worked to any extent.

VALLEY OF THE CONNECTICUT.

It may seem strange to some to think that at one time the low lands in town were covered by water to the depth of 200 feet or more. It seems probable and doubtless was the fact that at one time the Connecticut River run to Whitefield, N. H., across ponds, and into the valley of the Lower Ammonoosuck and so on until it reached its present course opposite Wells River in Newbury. If this be the case, as the summit level is 230 feet above the Connecticut at Lunenburg, and 228 at Guildhall, it must have caused a large lake to have existed in this region; but finally, by some means, by breaking through its banks at Lunenburg, changed its course to the present one. We present what was published in 1861 in the "Geology of Vermont" by Edward Hitchcock, and others, touching on the subject of the river's changing its course, but recent surveys more clearly prove that what we claim to be the case, is true.

"We would hazard a conjecture concerning the cause of this deficiency of terraces and terrace materials along this interval, while below, at Wells River, and above, at Lunenburg (upper part) and Guildhall, they are so abundant. We would conjecture that the Connecticut formerly left its present bed a little below Lancaster, N. H., then passed to Whitefield over the summit level, across two ponds of water, into the valley of the Lower Ammonoosuck River to Littleton, and followed that stream down to the mouth of Wells River, where it entered its present bed.

We would present the reasons for this belief:

1st. It would be a more direct route for the Connecticut than the present. To be sure, rivers do not seem to be very particular as to the route they take in threading their way among the hills; but, as for all the rest of its course in Connecticut, Massachusetts and Vermont, it is comparatively straight, there is some reason to think that a straight course for the rest of the way would have been the most natural. This straight course has generally been determined by the eastern limit of one of the rock formations, an easily decomposing rock. Now on its present route the rock is different in its character, being tough breccia or talcose schist instead of calciferous mica schist. On the Ammonoosuck route the rock is mainly granite, which is easier to decompose than the talcose schist. This route would have saved six miles at least.

2d. The *character of the terraces* along the two routes, and above and below the ends of the supposed led. Below Wells River, the terraces are remarkably fine—so they are above Lunenburg—while between Lunenburg and Wells River on the Connecticut, they are very poor below the mouth of the Passumpsic, and above that point are generally entirely wanting. Upon the Ammonoosuck River they are well developed. Hence it seems more natural to suppose that a continuous set of fine terraces was formed by the same stream, when that stream had the power to produce such brilliant effects as the Connecticut does, than to suppose the contrary.

The fact that from Wells River to Stevens Village (Barnet) there are some terraces, and none of any consequence above it, except on the Passumpsic River, would seem to indicate that the Passumpsic was the main producer of the terraces above Wells River, and that the Connecticut changed its course so recently as to have little effect upon the formation of terraces there.

3rd. This supposed bed is on the route of the proposed railroad from Littleton, N. H., to Lancaster, N. H.* Its summit level is 650 feet above Connecticut River, and if this measurement was taken from the mouth of Wells River, as we should suppose, it will be only 236 feet above the same river at Lunenburg, and 197 feet above Lancaster, N. H. This would not make this bed so high above the present level of the river as others which we consider as well established cases."

We also give what they have to say about the valley of the Connecticut at Guildhall.

"There are at least five basins in this region, one of the most fertile for agricultural purposes in the State.

The first of them, or the eighth from the mouth of the Connecticut, extends to the north line of Guildhall, a distance of seven miles. In South Guildhall, . . . the meadow is remarkably wide—so wide indeed is it that we could not see from the west side how many terraces there were on the east side. This has not been so before since leaving Massachusetts.† The terraces are developed in beautiful

*Now the White Mountain Division of the Boston & Lowell R. R.

†The State Geologists were taking a trip up the Connecticut River, it would seem.

proportions in Guildhall, especially about two miles west of the Court House, where there are *seven* terraces, the product of the joint action of the Connecticut and a small stream coming down from Granby. These are in a kind of sub-basin, a valley running west among the mountains, so that the Connecticut must formerly have made quite a bend. The second terrace is the most extensive of them all, forming a plain more than a mile wide. It is the meadow in Guildhall. In Northumberland, on the New Hampshire side, a high ledge of granite comes close to the river, cutting off all deposits. And soon the granite from the Vermont side approaches the river, and we see the barrier or limit of the basin.

We were reminded very much of Bellows Falls in Guildhall. For in both places, the general features of the geology as well as the topography are the same. The high hill of granite in Northumberland is shaped like Kilburne Peak, opposite Bellows Falls; and in lithological character the mountains agree, as well as the adjacent rocks across the river.

CHAPTER III.

Surveys of the Connecticut River—Upper Coos—Townships laid out and chartered—Guildhall's charter—Grantees—First Proprietors meeting—Original town lines—The town surveyed into lots.

In the year 1760, the Governor of New Hampshire commissioned Joseph Blanchard, of Dunstable, in that State, to make a survey of the Connecticut River northward from "No. 4," now known as Charlestown, N. H., and every six miles to mark a tree, or set a boundary on each side of the river for a township. This survey was made on the ice, and completed in March of that year, extending up the river as far as the N. E. corner of Newbury.

The next year, 1761, a survey of the same sort was made under the same authority by Hughbastis Neel, from where Blanchard left off, to the north end of the great meadows then called the Upper Coos.

We find in the Massachusetts Historical Collection, published in 1815:—Sketch of Lancaster, N. H.—"Previous to their incorporation, Lancaster, Northumberland and Stratford, in N. H., and Lunenburgh, Guildhall and Maidstone, in Vt., all lying on the Connecticut River, were designated by the Indian name Coos, which signifies crooked, and was originally applied to that part of the Connecticut on which these towns are situated."

The author of this was undoubtedly mistaken in one thing, and that is, the region referred to was Upper Coos and not Coos; for we find from good authority that

the towns in the immediate vicinity of Newbury and Haverhill were first known as Coos.

From these surveys a plan was made, and three tiers of townships laid out on each side of the river, and several of them chartered, with no further actual survey on the ground. In 1761, there were applications for almost every township on the river, and many back towns, so far as then surveyed.

A charter was granted for Guildhall in this year by Governor Benning Wentworth of New Hampshire, which bears date of October 10, 1761, and reads as follows:—

GUILDHALL.

$\left\{ \begin{array}{c} \text{Province of New Hampshire} \\ \text{P. S.} \end{array} \right\}$ George the
 third By the Grace of God of Great Britain
 France and Ireland King Defender of the faith
 &c. To all Persons to whom these Presents shall come
 —Greeting—Know ye that we of our special Grace sair-
 tain Knowledge & meer mention for the Due Encourage-
 ment of settling a New Plantation within our said Pro-
 vince By and with the advice of our trusty and well
 beloved Benning Wentworth Esqr our Governor and
 Commander in Chief of our said Province of New Hamp-
 shire in New England and of our Council of the said
 Province have upon the Conditions and Resolutions here-
 in after made Given and Granted and by these Presents
 for us our heirs and successors do give and Grant in equal
 shares unto our loving Subjects Inhabitants of our said
 Province of New Hampshire and our other Governments

and to their heirs and assigns forever whose Names are Entered on this Grant to be Divided to and amongst them into seventy equal shares all the tract or parcel of Land Situate Lying and being within our said Province of New Hampshire Containing by admeasurement twenty three thousand and Forty acres which tract is to contain six miles square and no more out of which an allowance is to be made for Highways and unimprovable Land by Rocks Ponds mountains and Rivers one thousand and Forty Acres free according to a plan and survey thereof made by our said Governors order and Returned into the Secretaries Office and hereunto annexed butted and Bounded as follows viz Beginning at a Stake and Stones which stands on the Westerly side of Connecticut River at or near the lower end of the upper Co-os thirty miles on a straight line from the mouth of Amonoosock River from thence North west six miles from thence North east six miles from thence South east six miles to the bank of Connecticut River from thence down said River to the place it began at and that the same be and hereby is Incorporated into a Township by the name of GUILDHALL and the Inhabitation that do or shall hereafter Inhabit the said Township are hereby Declared to be enfranchized with and entitled to all and every the Priviledges & immunities that other Towns within our Province by Law Exercise and enjoy and further that the said Town as soon as

their shall be fifty Families residant and settled thereon shall have the Liberty of holding two fairs one of which shall be held on the and the other on the annually which fairs are not to Continue Longer than the Respective following the and that as soon as the said Town shall Consist of fifty Families a market may be opened and kept one or more days in each week as may be thought most advantagious to the inhabitants also that the first meeting for the Choice of Town Officers agreeable to the Laws of our said Province shall be held on the last monday of October Instant which said meeting shall be Notified by Elihu Hall Esqr who is hereby also appointed the moderator of the said first meeting which he is to Notify and Govern agreeable to the Laws and Customs of our said Province and that the annual meeting forever hereafter for the Choice of such Officers for the said Town shall be on the of March annually to have and to hold the said tract of Land as above Expresed Respective heirs and assigns forever upon the following Conditions viz:—

I that every Grantee his heirs or assigns shall plant and Cultivate five acres of Land within the term of five years for every fifty acres Contained in his or thare share or proportion of Land in said Township and Continue to improve and settle the same by additional Cultivations on penalty of the forfeiture of his grant or share in the said Township and of its Reverting to us our heirs and successors to be by us or them Regranted to such of our subjects as shall eventually Settle and Cultivate the same.

2 That all white and other pine trees within the said Township fit for masting our Royal Navy be carefully preserved for that use and none to be cut or felled without our special Licence for so doing first had and obtained upon the penalty of the forfeiture of the Right of such Grantee his heirs and assigns to us our heirs and Successors as well as being Subject to the penalty of any act or acts of Parliament that now are or hereafter shall be Enacted.

3 That before any Division of the Land be made to & among the grantees a tract of Land as near the centre of the said Township as the Land will admit of shall be reserved and marked out for town lots one of which shall be allotted to each Grantee of the Contents of one acre.

4 Yealding and paying therefor to us our heirs and successors for the space of ten years to be computed from the Date hereof the Rent of one Ear of Indian Corn only on the twenty fifth day of December annually if Lawfully Demanded the first payment to be made on the Twenty fifth day of December 1762.

5 Every Proprietor Settlor or Inhabitant shall yeald and pay unto us our heirs and successors yearly and every year forever from and after the Expiration of ten years from the above said Twenty fifth day of December Namely on the Twenty fifth day of December which shall be in year of Lord 1772 one Shilling Proclamation money for every hundred acres he so owns Settles or posseses and so in proportion for a greater or lesser tract of the said Land which money shall be paid by the Re-

spective Persons above said there heirs or assigns in our Council Chamber in Portsmouth or to such officer or officers as shall be appointed to receive the same and this to be in lieu of all other Rents and services whatsoever in Testimony whereof we have caused the Seal of our said Province to be hereunto affixed Witnefs Benning Wentworth Esqr. our Governor and Commander in Chief of our said Province the 10th day of October in the year of our Lord Christ One Thousand seven Hundred and sixty one and in the first year of our Reign.

B. WENTWORTH.

By his Excellencys Command with advice of Council

THEODOUR ATKINSON Secry.

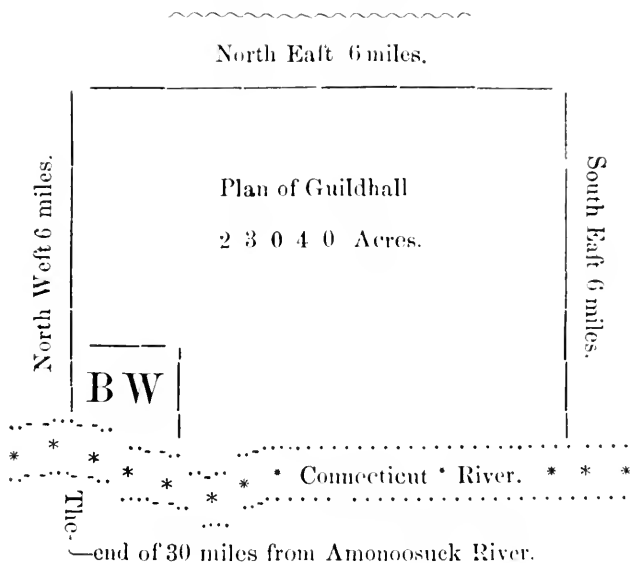
Province of New Hampshire Oct 10th 1761. Recorded according to Original under the Province Seal.

MR. THEODOUR ATKINSON Secry.

His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esqr. a Tract of Land to Contain five Hundred acres as marked B-W- in the plan which is to be accounted two of the within shares one Share for the Incorporation Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in foreign Parts one share for a Glibe for the Church of England as by Law Established one Share for the first settled Minister of the Gospel and one share for the Benefit of a School in said Town. Province of New Hampshire October 10th 1761.

Recorded from the back of the Original Charter of Guildhall under the Province Seal.

Attest—THEODOUR ATKINSON Secry."



~~~~~

Province of New Hampshire Oct 16th 1761.

Recorded from the back of the Original Charter of  
Guildhall under the Province Seal.

MR. THEODOUR ATKINSON Secry.

The foregoing is a true Copy taken from the back of  
Charters No 2 pag 211 and on

Attest Joseph Person Secry.

A True Copy of the Charter — Ward Bailey

P. Clerk

## NAMES OF GRANTEES.

Elihu Hall, Edmond Ward, Daniel Thomas, John Benham, John Benham, jr., Genaliel Benham, John Hall, 5th., Abonijah Thomas, Ebenezer Blakeslee, Elihu Hall, jr., Ashbel Stiles, Enos Todd, Samuel Mix, Giles Dayton, Gershom Todd, Joshua Ray, Samuel Whitlesey, Chauncy Whitlesey, Daniel Mackey, Samuel Sharp Bedell, Walter Munson, Thomas Ray, Joel Thorp, Hester Mackey Simeon Tuttle, Ithamer Tuttle, Aaron Tuttle, Titus Tuttle, James Paine, David Sharp, John Blakeslee, Timothy Barker, Oliver Dudley, Medad Dudley, Abram Kimberley, Nathaniel Chauncy, Esq., Charles Whitlesey, Esq., Damaris Hall, jr., Elisha Whitelsey, Edward G. Sutwyche, James Matthews, Jas. Matthews, jr., Peter Russell, Richard Wibird, Esq., Daniel Warner, Esq., Comfort Sage, Thomas Darling, Esq., Thomas Dodd, Philip Mortimore, John McClure, Sam'l. Mansfield, Thomas Rice, Chas. Cook, Wm. Pundle, Jonathan Blanchard, Rev. Samuel Hall, Theophilus Doolittle, Richard Alsop, Thomas Hart, Dr. Wm. Gould, Andrew Andross, John Moss, Benjah Thomas, Jno. Herpon, jr.

These original proprietors were residents of New Haven County and vicinity in the State of Connecticut. They held frequent meetings and passed sundry votes preparatory to occupying their lands, but they did not settle, or perhaps not even visit the same, until men from another State (Massachusetts) had occupied portions thereof. The first proprietary meeting was holden at New Haven, Conn., on the last Wednesday of October, 1761: the first deed was given by John Blakeslee, Enos Todd, Giles Dayton, Saml. Mix, David Thorp, Joshua Ray, Gershom Todd, Titus Tuttle, and John McClure to John Hall, 5th, and dated November 2d. 1761.

By whom the good name Guildhall was given to the town is not known: it is the only town in the world of this name; for our statement we refer to "Lippincott's Gazetteer of the World," which is authority. The line between Lunenburg and Guildhall was originally supposed to be further north, as well as the line between this town and Maidstone, and we find that much difficulty was experienced in the settlement of the matter with Maidstone people. Gen. James Whitelaw of Ryegate, Surveyor General for the State, surveyed the town in 1785, but the matter was not settled until the next year 1786, when Eben W. Judl surveyed the line between the towns. He at first met with much opposition from the settlers, who were jealous of their rights, and fearful lest they should be disturbed in their lots; but the matter was finally arranged, and the survey accepted.

In 1787, Edward Bucknam, Esq., "being one of a committee appointed to survey the town into lots," he and Mr. Thomas Darling performed that important service.



## CHAPTER IV.

Early settlement of Guildhall—Emmons Stockwell—Settlement at Newbury—First settlers arrive at Guildhall April 19, 1764—First houses---The next addition to the settlement 1775---Proprietors proceeding to Guildhall---Difficulty arises---Settlers finally confirmed in their lots by the Legislature of the new State, Vermont--Description of the early settlers---Mills at Newbury---What some Historians say about Guildhall---Enoch Bartlett's mill in Northumberland—Block House—A Petition for Soldiers 1776—First house in the Village--Settlers lots—Old people of the town.

During the French and Indian war many unsuccessful expeditions to subdue Canada were planned and attempted. In one of these expeditions was connected a young man by the name of Emmons Stockwell, an orphan, whose parents died when he was very young. Upon the failure of the expedition of which he was a member they became disorganized and separated into small parties, returning on their own account. It was in the winter season and their sufferings proved so severe that many died by the way. It was the fortune of young Stockwell and his party however, to strike the Connecticut River near its head waters, and they followed this stream down until they reached settlements. As they made their journey through it, this part of the country attracted the attention of Mr. Stockwell, and he, for a considerable time after returning to his native town, tried to get together a party to commence a settlement upon the banks of this beautiful river: he was finally successful, and in the

spring of 1764 a party left Lancaster, Mass., to accomplish this object: it being composed of the following:— David Page, whose father was an Englishman and the first settler of Lunenburg, Mass., David Page, Jr., aged 18 years, Emmons Stockwell, now twenty three years old, Timothy Nash, and a Mr. Rice. Some of these men were from the town then known as Petersham, Mass. They took with them 20 head of cattle and some horses, which were compelled to subsist principally on brouse and the foliage of trees.

When they started from Massachusetts their intention was to settle at Coos on what has since been known as the Great Ox Bow in Newbury, but arriving at this place they found it already occupied and quite a settlement; among the inhabitants here were Michael Johnson and James Pettie, who settled in that place in 1761; the same year Capt. John Hazen went to Newbury, from Haverhill, Mass., for the purpose of looking the locality over; and the next year 1762, (two years before the Guildhall settlers arrived) he, with men and materials, returned to that place (Newbury) and built mills.

After finding settlers at this place they continued their journey northward, and April 19, 1764, crossed the stream since known as the Israel's River in Lancaster, N. H. They pitched their camps on both sides of the Connecticut, on land now called the Stockwell Place on the New Hampshire side, and on land now owned by Mr. Benj.

Benton and Mrs. Small, widow of the late Richard Small, on the Vermont side.

They continued to occupy these lands for some time, cutting and clearing off, and planting corn. The first year they planted seventeen acres, which was the first product of Indian corn in this region: Mr. Stockwell described it as being full of milk, and standing twelve feet high, the ears being as high as his shoulders. August 27, this, their first beautiful crop, was frozen through and completely spoiled.

Their stock of cattle almost doubled during the first season, and the first winter they lost all of them owing to the destruction of their fodder. The next spring they procured others from their native towns.

Their first houses were temporary camps or cabins, but the next year they built more substantial structures.

Mr. Stockwell finally located on the Lancaster side of the river, while Timothy Nash, who was more of a hunter and trapper, located on the land now owned by Mr. E. S. Freeman. George Wheeler commenced his labors on land near Fisks Pond, on the south side of which he pitched his tent. Mr. Rice also commenced upon the same meadow near the river. Mr. David Page never, as far as we can learn, made a permanent residence at either of these places, but he did much toward the success and advancement of the new

settlement, passing back and forth frequently, and in the course of the summer brought his daughter Ruth, then we believe seventeen years of age. Not long after, she became the wife of Mr. Emmons Stockwell.

Mr. Milton Cutler in his sketch in The "Vermont Gazetteer" says in regard to Mr. Stockwell: "He was said to be a man of iron constitution, weighing about 240 pounds, and insensible to fear; Mrs. Stockwell was in all respects qualified to be a companion and helpmeet suitable for him. In proof the following fact is adduced: Indians were quite numerous in these parts and they frequently called in small parties at the houses of the settlers to stay all night, and frequently to have a "drink" as they termed it. Their place of crossing the river was at this settlement, and the canoes of the white men their means when traveling by land and then call the "war-whoop" not in hostility however. Many times has Mrs. Stockwell on dark and rainy nights on hearing the Indian whoop, gone alone, with her firebrand for a light, taken the canoe over and brought the savages to her house. Their house was a general resort for the Indians, with whom Mr. Stockwell traded, purchasing their furs and giving various articles in return; but his authority or that of Mrs. Stockwell they never disputed—the tapping of his foot upon the floor being sufficient to quiet them when most rude or riotous.

They raised a family of fifteen children, their third child being their first son, David Stockwell, who was the *first* child born in Guildhall, and when the youngest of the fifteen had reached twenty one years, not a death had occurred in the family. Mrs. Stockwell lived till her 80th year, and when she died her family could count 130 of her descendants then living."

The next addition to this settlement that we learn of was in the year 1775. Enoch Hall, Michael Amy, and James Rosebrook had advanced as far north as Colebrook, N. H., but when the Revolutionary war broke out, they were uncertain of the future actions of the Indians and Tories, and they concluded to return to their homes; they followed down the river until they reached the settlement at Guildhall, and Mr. Stockwell and others prevailed on them to remain here, and they made choice of this town.

In 1778, Eleazer Rosebrook and Samuel Page, and the next year, 1779, David Hopkinson, Reuben Howe and Simon Howe joined the settlement.

It was about this time that the proprietors proceeded to look after their interests, and to have surveys made of the township, by appointing and sending some of their numbers to this locality; when they entered this town, they found these squatters who were jealous of their rights, and rather rude contention ensued.

We give one of the records which will show the literature of that day, or of those particular persons :

“at a meetin of the Proprietors of the township of gildhall—holden by adjournment on the 10th day of Mar A D 1777 at the hous of Doctor Walter munsons in North haven County Timothy Andrus Chosin moderator Joseph Wooster Chosin—Clerk for the proprietors of said township.

Voted that they wou Locate and Lot the township of Gildhall——

Voted that Joseph Wooster—Abel Hull & Samuel andrus should be a committe for the above purpose—and a Cordingly pursude our Bensiness till being drove off from said town by the Inhabitants on account of expence our expence on the Road £18-0-0 to twenty Days each six shillings per day . . . . . £18-0-0 to horsis hier 300 miles each . . . . . £4-4-0

a true account of expence

test—Joseph Wooster

Clerk of Gildhall——

Jos Wooster—A Hull—Saml Andrus Committe £10-1-0”

Meanwhile considerable many additions had been made to this settlement: the settlers were finally confirmed in their possessions by the Assembly of the new State of Vermont.

We will here give another copy of the record of a proprietors meeting:

“Gillhall—Sept. 1st. 1783. at a Proprietors meeting of the township of Gillhall Legally warned and Convened at the House of mr James Rosebrook in said Gillhall then opened the meeting and maid a Choyce of Maj. Jonas Wildow for a Moderator and Joseph Wooster Clerk—

1—voated to adjourn this meting till wednesday next to be holden at Hous of Mr Philip grapes at two of the o'clock on said Day—then met a Cording to adjournment first voated to Run Lines Round the town and Locate & Lot the same—

2—voated that a Committee of seven be chosen to Lay out said town—

3—voated that Lieut Andrus be first

4—voated that Maj. Jonas Wildow be the 2

5—voated that Capt Luther Richardson be the 3

6—voated that mr Joseph Wooster be the 4

7—voated that mr Phillow Treet be the 5

8—voated that mr John Rich be the 6

9—voated that mr Abel Hull be the 7

then voated to adjourn this metia til thursday till nine of the o'clock in the Morning at the above mentioned Place then met a Cording to adjournment & opened the meting voated to tax themselves—then voted to Lay a tax of ten dollars on each original right to defray the Charges a rising for Locating Lotting and Laying a roade through said town—

Voted that Lieut Andrus be a collector for said tax—  
voated they will ascertain the quantity of inter in said town & make a return of the same to sum future meeting.

Lastly voated to adjourn this meting to the first tuesday of November next at the hous of mr Philip grapes at one of the o'clock in the afternoon—this meetin is adjourned &c. (signed) Joseph Wooster Clerk."

Nothing appears to have been accomplished pursuant to these votes of the proprietors in relation to locating and lotting the town, and its actual boundaries, as we have previously stated, were not established until 1785.

We will introduce one more specimen of the literature of those days, showing the efforts of the proprietors for locating and lotting the town, and for settling disputes that had arisen. This in form of an account running through quite a series of years.

"Timothy Andrus ajant at the Assembly of Vermont holden at Charlestown,\* for the townships of Guildhall, Granby & 8 townships to the northward.

Expence 4 weeks myself & hors. . . . . £15-0-0  
in order to get the bounds Established between gildhall & Lunenburg.

andrus paid Davenport 3-0-6 Joseph Wooster ajant in nome of Capt Elijah Hinman sent to the Assembly of Vt.

\*It will be remembered that for several years Vermont was refused admission into the Union, New York, New Hampshire and Massachusetts claiming the territory; but those determined men who were at the head of the new State protested; they were determined to be independent, or nothing! As other States claimed Vermont, and as many towns along the borders applied for admission into the new State, she too, commenced to make claims, and at one time several towns in New York and New Hampshire joined Vermont. As the State Assembly in those days was held in various towns, thus we find it at Charlestown, New Hampshire.



holden at Charlestown for the townships of gillhall granby  
 & Eight other towns Northerly Expence. . . . . £15-0-0  
 Timothy Andrus, Elijah Hinman appointed ajents to set-  
 tle the dispute with Colo grant relative to gillhall & granby  
 at the assembly of Vermont holden at benington Expence  
 5 weeks myself & hors . . . . . £18-0-0  
 Joseph Wooster Expence to bennington while in Capt  
 Elijah Hinman absents agreed upon by him self and aud-  
 rus for him to surve in his rome  
 Expence at that time . . . . . £9-5-0  
 Timothy Andrus Expence in going to Coos to get the  
 comittee that was appointed by the assembly of Vermont  
 to ascertain the boundaries of sundry townships begining  
 with gildhall as may appear—sum time in June 1780  
 Expence myself & hors 5 weeks 8 dollars to be paid to  
 the committee. . . . . £20-0-0  
 another time sent to wait on said Committee.  
 Expence. . . . . £8-3-0  
 all the above charges Lyes against the above menchend  
 ten townships Except the first Committee that against  
 gaildhall only—— March the 15—1799."

The first settlers of this town, being mostly from Lan-  
 caster and Lunenburg in Mass., they gave the same  
 names to the two towns lying as they intended upon op-  
 posite sides of the Connecticut River. According to their  
 plans and as already previously stated Lunenburg was to  
 include nearly all of what was afterwards found to be the  
 southern part of Guildhall, while Guildhall was supposed  
 to include what is now the southern portion of the town  
 of Maidstone; so that in early records we find some

Maldstone men figure as citizens of Guildhall, and men of Guildhall as Lunenburg people. For a number of years after the first settlers started in there were no roads, and no settlement nearer than Newbury. As the nearest mills were at that place, no grain was carried there to be ground, although grain was sometimes purchased ground and brought to their homes: but most of their grinding was done with pestles and mortars. It will be interesting to note here these "*grist mills*;" they were manufactured from large hard wood trees, cut into short logs, which were sometimes two and three feet in diameter, and then hewed out to suit their desires. When completed they presented a sort of one horse appearance in comparison with some of the complicated affairs one may see in the large cities in this latter half of the nineteenth century: but they answered all purposes at that time, and they got along very nicely in that way for a number of years.

If we encroach upon any of our historians they will pardon us. Thompson in his "Gazetteer of Vermont" published in 1824, says in relation to Guildhall, "The first settlers suffered severe privations and hardships for a number of years. They brought their grain and provisions from Northfield in Mass., a distance of more than 150 miles. During the Revolutionary war they were in continual alarm and frequently annoyed by the Indians and Tories who killed their cattle, plundered their houses and carried a number of the inhabitants into captivity."

Thompson is by no means the only one who claims these facts, for most sketches and histories of this settlement tell the same story almost *word for word*; if the reader will take the trouble to look this up, they will find we are quite correct in our assertions. These ‘latter day’ historians undoubtedly take Thompson for authority, but “Thompson’s Gazetteer” is far from being right, not only in this but in other cases as well; if you will read Rev. Grant Powers’ “History of the Coos Country” you will see that he criticises him very severely.

We do not claim the early settlers had a “soft time” or were not annoyed, but they were only severely annoyed in one or two individual instances. They were of course new-comers, and had to put up with the hardships of the times and no more. Why did they bring their grain and provisions from Northfield, Mass., when, as we have shown to be the case, there was a comparatively old settlement at Newbury and Haverhill, where they had mills erected etc? The Proprietors of course annoyed them to quite an extent, and also the tories, but the Indians were usually friendly and committed no acts of hostility, and were only troublesome in making pretty free use of settlers’ houses. They took rather more liberty in calling at houses where the men were absent, but authority of the lady of the house was almost always acknowledged. However on one occasion they became so troublesome while calling on Mrs. Eleazer Rosebrook that she drove them from the house, but one squaw who at the time, was quite intoxicated appeared

unable to move. Mrs. Rosebrook caught her by the hair of the head and drew her from the house. This was too rough handling for the squaw, and recovering herself threw her hatchet just as Mrs. Rosebrook was closing the door, cutting off the wooden thumb piece of the latch: the next morning after recovering from her "drunk," recollecting her actions of the night before, she returned to the house of Mrs. Rosebrook and confessed her fault, asked her pardon, and promised to behave better in the future.

We find that a very peculiar circumstance took place during the early settlement, and we insert the "Complaint of Enoch Bartlett," made in 1730, which we take from the "N. H. Town Papers," and which explains itself.

"To the Hon<sup>ble</sup> the Council and Representatives of the State of New Hampshire in General Court Assembled.

The Petition Memorial And Address of Enoch Bartlett of Haverhill Humbly Shews.—

That your petitioner has lately Suffered Much injury by a Sort of Banditti who in Contempt of all laws did at Northumberland in the County of Grafton in Said State in September last without Any color or right commit a most horrid revenge, by entering Upon his Your petitioners GRIST MILL And SAW MILL, in Said Northumberland (lately erected or repaired at a great expence) And cut and destroy'd the wheels Shafts &c And took Away all the Iron Work of Said Mills, Mill Stones and other Gear and a Quantity of Boards and Carried them a Cross Connecticut River into the State Called Vermont.

And improved them for other Mills — And have Since when demanded refused pay for the Damage done. . . . . And Further Says that he cannot Suppose that his affairs (the not the most trivial) will alone put you Upon Action on the affair; But that a due consideration of the many Instances of Fraud, Injustice and oppression that prevails in that County Since the laws were Suppress'd—will influence You to make the Necessary Provisions Pray'd for And he As in duty bound Shall ever pray.

June 22, 1780.

Enoch Bartlett."

In these revolutionary times, while the inhabitants of these settlements were to some extent annoyed by the Indians and tories, and not knowing what might happen, Col. Ward Bailey and others erected a Block House, which in cases of necessity was used as a defensive resort. This building was composed of white pine logs of large size, hewed square, and stood near where Mr. Cobb formerly resided and on land now owned by Mrs. S. A. Hall: it was, for those times, a very strong fortification, and was a great protection to the settlement. It was afterward used as the first jail of the county.

We take from the New Hampshire Town Papers a petition for soldiers; it shows how the men of this community stood in those days. They meant to protect their families and property. Their petition bears date of July 6, 1776, two days after the signing of the Declaration of Independence.

## PETITION FOR SOLDIERS.

“Whereas we the inhabitants of Lancaster, Northumberland, Guildhall & Stratford are fully sensible of the danger of being attacked by the Canadians which are the worst<sup>t</sup> of Enemys & although some of our neighbors have Quit the ground, yet we the Subscribers Do Jointly & severly promis & ingage to Stand our ground providing the Hon<sup>bl</sup> Counsell sees Fitt to grant our request That is this, that you will please us your petitioners so far as to apoint Mr. JERE<sup>n</sup> AMES of Northumberland our friend & Neighbor, Commander of our Fort which with a great Deal of fatage we have almost accomplished and Likewise for him the s<sup>d</sup> Ames to have orders to inlist as many men as the Hon<sup>r</sup> Cort in their Wisdom will see fit, we do ingage to inlist ourselves & obey his orders as long as he is stationed in uper Coos and Commander of the fort.

July 6, 1776.

|                   |  |                          |  |                          |
|-------------------|--|--------------------------|--|--------------------------|
| THOMAS BLODGETT   |  | NATHAN CASWELL           |  | DAVID LARNED             |
| JAMES CURTISS     |  | SAM <sup>l</sup> L. NASH |  | SAM <sup>l</sup> L. PAGE |
| ARCHUPPA BLODGETT |  | ABRAHAM LARNED           |  | ABNER OSGOOD             |
| EMMONS STOCKWELL  |  | MOSES QUIMBY             |  | DIES SAWYER              |
| JOSIAH BLODGETT   |  | WARD BAILEY              |  | ABEL LARNED              |
| JOSEPH BARLOW     |  | JAS. BLAKE               |  | JOHN TRICKEY             |
| ELIEZER ROSEBROOK |  | ABNER BARLOW”            |  |                          |

The first house constructed in the village was made of logs on land near the corner of the Essex House.

In 1799 there were twelve settlers' lots in town occupied by eleven men whose names we give, also the number of lots occupied by them, and the present owners' names, viz:

—No. 1, Col. Ward Bailey—including the tract now occupied by the village, westerly to land now occupied by C. E. Benton, and northerly to the Maidstone line.

—No. 2, James Rosebrook—including Nelson Call's farm, and land owned by Frank Hall, Geo. Hubbard and Thos. H. Hubbard.

—No. 3, D. Hopkinson—including the farm now owned by John B. Drew, and a considerable portion of the plain owned by Messers Haskell and Long.

—No. 4, Samuel Howe—now owned by A. A. Gray.

—No. 5, Ezra Rosebrook—now owned by Messers Bowman and Stevens.

—No. 6, Same as No. 5.

—No. 7, Col. Jonah Grout and Edward Bucknam—now owned by G. T. Fellows, B. B. Benton and Mrs. Small.

—No. 8, Same as No. 7.

—No. 9, Reuben and Simon Howe—now owned by Wm. and Henry Heywood.

—No. 10, Same as No. 9.

—No. 11, George Wheeler—now owned by D. Y. Clark.

—No. 12, Benoni Cutler—now owned by Geo. S. Boyce, John Hubbard and Z. Woods.

These grants to the settlers contained 100 acres each, and in the case of No. 12, 400 acres. The reason for this difference was the grant by the proprietors in 1787 to Abner Osgood and Ward Bailey of 300 acres, in consideration of the large expense incurred by them in building mills on Spauldings Brook, since known as Mill Brook. Mr. Osgood had 200, and Mr. Bailey 100 acres extra. Mr. Benoni Cutler bought this tract of land, including the mills and the stream on which they were erected, so the stream is frequently called Cutler's Mill Brook.

Very few of the numerous descendants of the twelve first settlers are at present residing in Guildhall; and no families bearing the name of Hopkinson, Howe, Grout or Bucknam.

The settlement had a thrifty growth, and has proven to be a good one: in no town of the same size can be found a more enterprising, intelligent and independent people, than those who are still in the good old place.

The oldest person we believe, who has died in the town, was Mr. Calvin Hubbard, who died in September 1851, aged 93 years and 5 months. His wife died in September 1857, and was 93 years and 2 months old.

The oldest person now living in town is Mr. Zephaniah K. Washburn who is in his 86th year, of whom more will be said in another chapter.



## CHAPTER V.

Transactions of the Town—Warning for the first Town meeting March 1st 1785—First Record of Town meeting—List of Town officers elected at this meeting—Pound Districts—List of Representatives to Vt. State Legislature—"Governor's Right" sold for Taxes—Village laid out---Population---Town Officers for 1885—Politics of the Town.

The first record of a town meeting is dated 1785, but it appears that the town had been previously organized, as this meeting was called by the selectmen of the town, (who of course, must have been previously chosen.) We give what appears on the town clerk's record.

"Guildhall March 1st, 1785.

This is to Notify and Warn all the freemen of the Town of Guildhall to meet at the Dwelling House of Mr. Jacob Shuff, on monday the 14th day of March at Ten o'clock in the Morning in order to make choice of Town officers and act on other articles (viz) first to chose a Moderator to govern sd meeting.

2 To choose Town Clerk.....3d.,To choose selectmen.

4 To choose Town Treasurer ..... 5 To choose a Constable & all other Town officers Necessary.....6 To see if the Town will Raise money for making and mending Highways.....7 To choose Highway Surveyors.....

8 To make choice of some suitable man for a Justice of the Peace.....Jacob Shuff }  
John Rich } Selectmen."  
Abijah Larned }

It will be seen that these selectmen are all really **Maidstone** men; we have already explained the cause of this.

“Guildhall March 14th, 1785.

Then met at the House of mr Jacob Shuff according to the within Warrant and opened the meeting, made choice of Ward Bailey for Moderator to Govern said meeting, and adjourned said meeting to the House that Abraham Gilds now ~~lives~~ Dwells in, in Guildhall on the 25 day of this Instant march at one o'clock in the afternoon—by order of us——Selectmen Jacob Shuff.

John Rich.

Abijah Larned.

Met on the twenty fifth day of March 1785 according to adjournment & opened the meeting & proceeded according to the Warrant.

2. Made choice of John Rich Town Clerk.
3. Made choice of John Rich for the first Selectman.
4. Made choice of Abner Osgood Second Selectman.
5. Made choice of John Hugh third Selectman.
6. Made choice of the Selectmen to serve for Listers this Present year.
7. Made choice of Micah Amy Town Treasurer.
8. Made choice of Abijah Larned Constable. . . .
9. Voted to raise forty Pounds Lawful money to make and mend Highways.
10. Voted to give six Shillings pr. man by day for Highwaywork.
11. Voted to give three Shillings for one Pair of Oxen per day on highwaywork.
12. Made choice of Abijah Larned for highway Surveyor.

13. Made choice of John Rich Junr. highway Surveyor..
14. Made choice of Jas. Rosebrooks Highway Surveyor..
15. Made choice of Abner Osgood Sealer of Weights & measures .....
16. Made choice of Benj. Biram, Hog Rief & fence viewer
17. Made choice of Abner Osgood Justice Peace.....
18. Voted to accept the Town Book bought by John Rich for sd Guildhall—These may certify that the within, or the foregoing, & the above Votes & Articles mentioned one for the Present year pr me.

————JOHN RICH, Town Clerk.

Guildhall, April 4th., 1785.”

We find that at the March meeting in the year 1799, the Town was divided into two Pound Districts; Mr. Theophilus Cutler was the keeper of the North, and Mr. Wm. Rosebrook for the South.

#### “GOVERNOR’S RIGHT” DISPOSED OF.

As has already been shown on pages 61 and 62 of this book, whenever Gov. Wentworth, British Governor of New Hampshire, granted a town charter, he reserved for himself 500 acres of land, usually in the south east corner of the town; this was termed the “Governor’s Right”. Wentworth was a loyalist, and when the Revolutionary war broke out was obliged to abandon the country including these “Rights.”

In the year 1798 the "Governors Right" in Guildhall, which was in the southeast corner of the town, was sold at vendue for taxes; the land was bid off in sections by Haynes French, Eleazer Rosebrook, Jeremiah Fames, Jr., Jesse Hugh and Gerard Clark. All this tract afterwards became the property of David Hopkinson, was subsequently owned by his sons David and Joshua, and is the land now occupied by Wm. H. Rhodes and Wm. Hopkins.

#### VILLAGE LAID OUT.

"Whereas application having been made in writing by more than seven Freeholders Inhabitants of the town of Guildhall, to the Selectmen of said town, requesting them to lay out and establish the limits and bounds of a Village in said town, agreeable to the Law in such case made and provided.

Therefore we the Subscribers, Selectmen of the town of Guildhall have laid out and established the limits and bounds of a Village in the Northerly part of said town as follows: Bounded westerly by a line across the Highway parallel and even with the westerly end of Capt Newcomb Blodgett 2ds. Dwelling House; Easterly by the westerly end of Northumberland Toll Bridge; Northerly by the hollow where the water runs across the Road near the north side of the common——

Laid out and established by us this 10th day of April A. D. 1830.

|                |   |             |
|----------------|---|-------------|
| Erastus Cutler | } | Selectmen   |
| Henry Hall     |   | of          |
|                |   | Guildhall." |

## TOWN REPRESENTATIVES.

The first election for Town Representative to the Vermont State Legislature, according to the records, took place in September 1798, and Hezekiah May Esq., was chosen. At this meeting there were 50 votes cast for the State Officers. We give below a list of Representatives by years.

1798 Hezekiah May.

“99 Hezekiah May.

1800 Daniel Dana.

“01 Daniel Dana.

“02 Daniel Dana.

“03 Daniel Dana.

“04 Daniel Dana.

“05 Daniel Dana.

“06 Daniel Dana.

“07 Elijah Foote.

“08 Daniel Dana.

“09 Elijah Foote.

“10 Elijah Foote.

“11 Elijah Foote.

“12 Calvin Perkins.

“13 Elijah Foote.

“14 David Dennison.

“15 Chester Thayer.

1816 Joseph Berry.

“17 Joseph Berry.

“18 Seth Cushman.

“19 Seth Cushman.

“20 Seth Cushman.

“21 David Hopkinson.

“22 David Hopkinson.

“23 David Hopkinson.

“24 David Hopkinson.

“25 Erastus Cutler.

“26 David Hopkinson.

“27 Seth Cushman.

“28 John Dewey.

“29 David Hopkinson.

“30 John Dewey.

“31 H. Hubbard.

## List of Town Representatives concluded.

|                       |                       |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| 1832 John Dewey.      | 1859 W. H. Hartshorn. |
| "33 John Dewey.       | "60 Geo. N. Dale.     |
| "34 Henry Hall.       | "61 Greenleaf Webb.   |
| "35 R. W. Freeman.    | "62 J. Benjamin.      |
| "36 John Dewey.       | "63 W. H. Meacham.    |
| "37 John Dewey.       | "64 W. H. Meacham.    |
| "38 John Dewey.       | "65 Hy. R. Stevens.   |
| "39 R. W. Freeman.    | "66 Chas. E. Benton.  |
| "40 H. Hubbard.       | "67 Chas. E. Benton.  |
| "41 John Dewey.       | "68 Ezra S. Freeman.  |
| "42 Allen Gould.      | "69 Ezra S. Freeman.  |
| "43 Allen Gould.      | "70 Wm. C. Washburn.  |
| "44 O. Crawford.      | "71 Wm. C. Washburn.  |
| "45 O. Crawford.      | "72 W. D. Rosebrook.  |
| "46 Stephen Ames.     | "73 W. D. Rosebrook.  |
| "47 Stephen Ames.     | "74 No election.      |
| "48 J. Benjamin.      | "75 No election.      |
| "49 Jno. P. Dennison. | "76 P. R. Follansby.  |
| "50 J. Benjamin.      | "77 P. R. Follansby.  |
| "51 Jno. P. Dennison. | "78 W. H. Hartshorn.  |
| "52 Pliny Rosebrook.  | "79 W. H. Hartshorn.  |
| "53 Pliny Rosebrook.  | "80 Eldad A. Rhodes.  |
| "54 O. Crawford.      | "81 Eldad A. Rhodes.  |
| "55 Richard Small.    | "82 A. W. Grow.       |
| "56 Hy. L. Watson.    | "83 A. W. Grow.       |
| "57 George Hubbard.   | "84 No election.      |
| "58 W. H. Hartshorn.  | "85 No election.      |

## POPULATION OF THE TOWN.

The official census of this town, with that of all towns in the State is taken every ten years, and we give below the census of Guildhall accordingly from the first year it was taken. It will be interesting to note the changes from time to time; one interesting fact is that in 1810 there were nearly as many people in town as at the present time; this may very easily be accounted for in the fact that at that time Guildhall was the leading town in this section. The census as given for the year 1885, was taken by the writer in July of that year; it is of course not an official census but is we think quite correct.

We give it by School Districts as well.

| YEAR.     | POPULATION. |
|-----------|-------------|
| 1791..... | 158.        |
| 1800..... | 296.        |
| 1810..... | 544.        |
| 1820..... | 529.        |
| 1830..... | 481.        |
| 1840..... | 470.        |
| 1850..... | 501.        |
| 1860..... | 552.        |
| 1870..... | 483.        |
| 1880..... | 558.        |
| 1885..... | 583.        |

## BY SCHOOL DISTRICTS 1885.

| District. | Population. | District. | Population. |
|-----------|-------------|-----------|-------------|
| 1         | 147         | 4         | 167         |
| 2         | 91          | 5         | 79          |
| 3         | 52          | 6         | 47          |

---

Total 583.

The Town Officers for 1885 are:

Clerk, Hon. Wm. H. Hartshorn; Treasurer, Robert Chase; Selectmen, Azro Burton, Geo. A. Hubbard and Hubbard D. Webb; Constable, Charles Keith; Superintendent, L. A. Grannis; Listers, W. D. Emery, John Grannis and Charles E. Hubbard; Overseer, George S. Boyce; Agent, Frank Hall.

The Post master at Guildhall is Frank Hall.

[For the sketch on the political movements of the town we refer the reader to the appendix, as all the points we wish to give on this subject were not in readiness to be printed with the rest of this chapter.]



## CHAPTER VI.

Roads and Bridges---Northumberland Toll Bridge Co.---Lancaster Bridge Co.---Guildhall water supply---Guildhall Aqueduct Co.

The subject of roads and bridges is comparatively of little importance in comparison with other matters in this history, but it was a matter of great weight with the early settlers whether they were obliged to follow "spotted lines," climbing over wind falls, etc, or go by the river and doing so travel two miles, and really advance but one toward the end of their journey. Yet it was a long time after the first settlement was made before there was a road in the town.

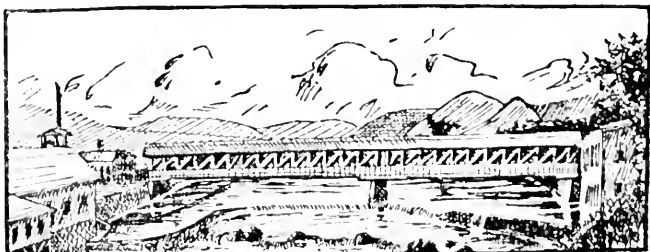
When the river road was first laid out is not known, but it was permanently established in May 1792, by Eben W. Judd, Benoni Cutler, David Hopkinson and Simon Howe; these men, it appears, composed a committee appointed for the purpose by the Legislature.

Granby road, which has been considerably changed since it was first built, was laid out in 1788 by Nathaniel Herriek, Abner Curtis and Eleazer Herriek.

The north road was first laid out in 1794 by the same men who laid out the Granby road. Its route is altogether changed, but some remains of the original road are plainly visible at the present time. North road as it now is was laid out in 1797; Sam'l. R. Hall was surveyor.

We will not go into the details, or describe the other roads in town but will simply say that considering the lay of the land, and other circumstances, the roads in Guildhall are as good, if they are not better than those of other towns in this section.

#### THE NORTHUMBERLAND TOLL BRIDGE CO.



The proprietors of this Company received a charter from the Legislature of N. H., which bears date of June 17, 1802; we will not give this charter in full, but some extracts from same.

“State of New Hampshire.

{ L. S. } In the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and two.....AN ACT.....

To incorporate certain persons for the purpose of building a Bridge over Connecticut river at the Falls in Northumberland in County of Grafton—Whereas a Bridge over said River at the place above mentioned will be of public utility—And whereas Jeremiah Eames, John M. Tillotson and Nathan Cass, have petitioned the General Court for liberty to build the same and to be incorporated for that purpose—Therefore—

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court convened that the persons above named together with those their associates who are or shall become proprietors in said Bridge as long as they continue Proprietors thereof, shall be a corporation and body politic for the purposes aforesaid under the name of "The Proprietors of the Northumberland Bridge" and by that name may sue and be sued to final judgement and execution. . . . . And be it further enacted that Jeremiah Eames Esq., shall call a meeting of said proprietors by posting up an advertisement at the Widow Cargill's tavern in Northumberland to be holden at any suitable time and place after fourteen days from the first publication of said advertisement. . . . . And be it further enacted, that the proprietors aforesaid be and hereby are permitted and allowed to erect a Bridge over said River at any place within one mile above and one mile below the centre of the Falls in Northumberland aforesaid which two miles are to be computed as the said River runs and the said proprietors are hereby impowered to purchase any lands adjoining said Bridge not exceeding three acres and to hold same in fee simple. . . . .

..... And be it further enacted, that the exclusive Right of Building & maintaining a bridge across said River Connecticut any where within the limits of one mile above & one mile below said Falls as the River runs, as aforesaid be & the same is hereby fully granted to said petitioners & such as are or may be associated with them & become proprietors, their heirs and assigns.....

State of New Hampshire

In the House of Representatives June 5th 1802.  
The foregoing Bill having had three several readings passed to be enacted, John Pientire, Speaker.

In the Senate the same day this bill having been read a third time was enacted. Amos Shepard, President.

Approved June 17, 1802.

J. I. GILMAN, Governor."

The original subscribers were :

|                        |   |                     |          |
|------------------------|---|---------------------|----------|
| Noah Sabins            | 4 | Thomas Peverly      | 1        |
| Seth Cushman           | 2 | William Amy         | 1        |
| Jonon. Smith           | 2 | Elijah Foot         | 1        |
| Isaac Smith            | 2 | Wm. Hewes           | 1        |
| Elijah Foot, for John  |   | Artimus Wilder, Jr. | 1        |
| Willard, if built next |   | Asa W. Burnap       | 1        |
| summer                 | 2 | Jacob Rich          | 1        |
| Jeremiah Eames         | 2 | Moody Rich          | 1        |
| John M. Tillotson      | 4 | Rich Stevens        | 1        |
| Ephraim Perkins        | 1 | John Rich           | 1        |
| Francis Willson        | 2 | Simeon Sidney       | 1        |
| Stephen Willson        | 4 | Jesse Hugh          | 1        |
| Joseph Peverly         | 1 |                     | Total 38 |

## Advertisement for the first meeting.

“Northumberland }  
 July 27th., 1803. { Whereas by an act of the  
 Legislature of the State of New Hampshire, passed June  
 17, 1802, granting the privilege of building a bridge  
 over the Connecticut river in Northumberland in the  
 Co. of Grafton and State aforesaid. To Jeremiah Eames  
 & his Associates. Therefore, agreeable to said Act this  
 is to notify & warn the Proprietors & owners of said Grant  
 to meet at the dwelling house of Mrs. Betsey Cargill in  
 said Northumberland on Wednesday the 24 day of Aug.  
 next at 2 o'clock P. M. to act on the following articles,  
 viz: 1st. To chose a moderator to govern said meeting.  
 2d. To chose a Proprietors Clerk.  
 3d. To adopt some method to call meetings in future.  
 4th. To act on all matters touching said Grant  
 which the Proprietors may think fit.

JEREMIAH EAMES.”

## First meeting.

“At a Regular meeting of the Proprietors of Northumber-  
 land Toll Bridge, held agreeable to advertisement at the  
 dwelling house of Mrs. Betsey Cargill in Northumberland  
 agreeable to act of the Legislature of N. H., passed June  
 17, 1802, this 24th day of August 1803. I Voted to  
 appoint Jeremiah Eames Esq. moderator of this meeting.

2d. To appoint John M. Tillotson, Clerk of said  
 Proprietary.— State of New Hampshire, Grafton fs.  
 24th. August 1803. Then personally appeared John M.

Tillotson & made solemn oath faithfully to discharge the duties of a clerk for said propriety, according to the best of his abilities.— Jeremiah Eames, Jus. Ps.

3d. Voted that by the application in writing of one tenth part of the proprietors of said Bridge, made to the clerk of the propriety, he shall & hereby is authorized & empowered to call a meeting of the proprietors of said Bridge by posting up two advertisements, one in Northumberland & the other in Guildhall at the nearest public houses to said Bridge at least fourteen days prior to the day of meeting. 4th. That this meeting be adjourned to Friday the 9th. day of September next at 3 o'clock P. M. then to meet at the dwelling house of Mr. Jonathan Smith in Guildhall. Jeremiah Eames, Moderator.

Attest John M. Tillotson, Propr. Clerk."

We find that at a meeting held in 1807, it was "voted that people actually going to attend religious meetings on the sabbath day, lectures and funerals on week days, Clergymen and likewise, school masters and scholars actually going from home to school or from school home and persons actually going to attend singing schools or singing meetings, are allowed to pass the Bridge Toll free."

The first Toll House was built in 1806, where it now stands and the sum of \$245, was paid for its construction.

The first Bridge was built in 1806, by Maj. William Hews; Mr. Wm. Amy was master workman, "voted that the proprietors return to Maj. Wm. Hews as undertaker, and Wm. Amy Esq. as master workman of said Bridge, their unfeigned thanks for their punctuality and nice workmanship in the above undertaking." This bridge stood for 20 years, when it was taken down and the second Bridge erected in 1826, which stood until 1842.

These were trestle bridges, and were not covered. The 3d. bridge, built in 1842 by a Mr. Paddleford, was a covered bridge with one pier and one trestle; it was a good bridge and would have undoubtedly been very useful for a number of years, but in December 1854, a terrible wind storm visited this place, completely carrying away the bridge; we shall give more fully the particulars of this storm in a following chapter. In 1855 the 4th., and present bridge was built, under the direction of Mr. Chas. Richardson, and is a very good structure. In 1879 and 1880 an expense of \$1200. was incurred in rebuilding the abutments, and in 1883 general repairs were made to the extent of \$1500.

There are 38 shares, par value \$100. per share.

The Officers of the Company are :

|                                |                           |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------|
| President, Wm. H. Poole.       | { W. H. Poole,            |
| Clerk and Treas. C. E. Benton. | Directors { Robert Chase, |
| Collector, Seth Meeham.        | { Frank Hall.             |

#### THE LANCASTER BRIDGE CO.

The charter for this bridge was granted to "Richard C. Everett, Levi Willard, Titus O. Brown, Jonathan Crane, Stephen Willson, Jonas Baker, Artimus Wilder, Jr., and such others as may join them . . . . . are permitted and allowed to erect and maintain a bridge over Connecticut River at a place called Waits Bow in Lancaster in the County of Grafton or at any place between the mouth of Israels River and the upper line of said Lancaster."

The charter bears date of June 21, 1804. The first meeting was held Aug. 20, 1804; Richard C. Everett Esq. was chosen Chairman, and Thos. Carlisle, Clerk.

The shares were taken at this meeting as follows:

|                    |   |                     |    |
|--------------------|---|---------------------|----|
| Thos. Carlisle &c  | 2 | David Bundy         | 1  |
| Isaac Bunday       | 2 | Wm. Huves           | 1  |
| Richard C. Everett | 3 | Artumas Wilder, Jr. | 12 |
| Wm. Lovjoy         | 1 | Elisha Bunday       | 1  |
| Levi Willard       | 2 | Daniel Dana         | 1  |
| Stephen Wilson     | 2 | Uriel Rosebrook     | 1  |
| J. Cram            | 1 | Lemuel Holmes       | 1  |
| Daniel Perkins     | 2 | Asa Holmes          | 1  |
| Jonas Baker        | 1 | Samuel Howe         | 1  |
| Titus O. Brown     | 1 | Timothy Faulkner    | 1  |
| Humphry Cram       | 1 | Bowman Chaddock     | 1  |

"Voted that Richard C. Everett, Wm. Huves, Levi Willard, Isaac Bunday & Wm. Lovjoy be a Committee to report a correct plan of a Bridge & the exact place where it ought to be erected." The present location was adopted, and the first bridge erected in 1805, which was rebuilt about 1823. The present bridge is a covered bridge with two piers; although it is a very old bridge, yet it is in a fairly good condition.

The Officers of the Corporation are: Richard P. Kent, Chairman. Henry Heywood, Clerk and Treasurer. John H. Hopkinson, James A. Smith and Henry O. Kent, Directors.



## THE GUILDHALL AQUEDUCT COMPANY.

Originally the people of the village had to content themselves with wells from which to obtain their water, but frequently some drew it from different places in barrels. This was a very inconvenient way, and the larger the village grew, the more the necessity pressed itself upon the people to have some different method of obtaining their water. It was about the year 1841, that Allen Gould and John S. Nelson laid the first aqueduct; their plans were to lay logs from the spring near the Maidstone line to the village, but when it was completed they found it would not work; owing to the fact that the spring itself was at about the same altitude as the village. They did not give up, however, although they had been to a heavy expense, and the same year laid logs from a spring upon the hill opposite the village, in N. II. Upon its completion they found it worked to great satisfaction. This successful aqueduct was laid across the bridge, and when the cold weather came, it froze up, and it was found necessary to devise some plan to surmount this obstacle, and the next spring they laid a pipe across the river letting it rest upon the bottom of the stream. About 1850, Mr. Geo. Hubbard and Mr. Wm. Heywood got possession of the property and managed it up to 1857, at which time Mr. Nathaniel Shaw became owner and run it up to Sep. 1872, when Mr. Frank Hall and Mr. E. G. Richardson bought it and relaid the logs.

June 1st. 1874, Mr. Charles E. Benton bought out half interest and Mess. Hall and Benton managed it until Sep. 1st. 1883, at which time the Guildhall Aqueduct Co. was formed by J. B. Parker, Geo. Hubbard, Robt. Chase, Mrs. S. A. Hall, H. E. Hubbard, P. R. Follansby, A. W. Grow, R. K. Poole, C. D. Crawford, David Kent, C. E. Benton, A. D. Benjamin, W. H. Hartshorn, Dr. N. S. Boyce and the M. E. Church ; they organized under the following act of Legislature :—*It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont.*

SEC. 1. Such persons as shall hereafter become stockholders are hereby constituted a body corporate by the name of the Guildhall Aqueduct Co., with powers incident to corporations and may hold real and personal estate not exceeding \$10000. in value for the purpose of constructing and maintaining an aqueduct for the purpose of supplying the inhabitants of the village of Guildhall with water for domestic and other purposes.

SEC. 2. Said corporation may at any annual or other meeting legally notified make, alter and repeal such by-laws, rules and regulations as may be thought necessary, not repugnant to the laws of this State.

SEC. 3. The capital stock of said Co., shall consist of 100 shares at \$100. each which stock may be increased by said corporation to an amount sufficient to carry into effect the object of this act, and said corporation may provide for the sale and mode of transfer thereof as said corporation may from time to time deem expedient, and may levy & collect assessments on such shares according to law, & fix the rates on the same at pleasure, and shall have the power to sue for and collect said water-rents when necessary.

SEC. 4. Said corporation may dig or open any street, common or highway, for the purpose of constructing, laying down or repairing such aqueduct, as may be found desirable; provided, the same may be done in such a manner as not to injure or disfigure said street, common or highway; and in all cases when said corporation shall lay or repair said aqueduct in any enclosed field, they shall pay all damages done to crops thereon, and leave the surface of said lands, as near as may be, in as good condition as before laying or repairing said aqueduct.

SEC. 5. The said corporation may enter upon and use any enclosure or land through which it may be necessary for said aqueduct to pass, on the most practical route from where its water may be taken, for the purpose of placing reservoirs and pipes as may be necessary for constructing, completing and repairing said aqueduct, and may agree with the owner or owners thereof for the use of the same; but in case of disagreement, or if any owner thereof be a minor, insane, or out of the state, or otherwise incapacitated to sell and convey, said corporation, or the owner or owners, or persons interested in lands so entered upon may apply to the judges of the county court for the county of Essex, by petition, who shall appoint forthwith three disinterested persons to view the premises and assess the damages sustained by the owners or occupants of said land by the construction of said aqueduct, and said committee shall appraise said damages on oath, and report the same to the county court for the county aforesaid, at its first session thereafter, and if their report shall be accepted by said court, the court shall render judgement thereon, and may issue an execution therefor with costs.

SEC. 6. Any person who shall maliciously disturb or injure said aqueduct, or any works or enclosures connected with the same shall be liable to be prosecuted by information, complaint, or indictment, and on conviction thereof shall be fined not less than \$5. nor more than \$20. and costs of prosecution, and shall also be liable to said corporation for all damages.

SEC. 7. This act shall be subject to the provisions of chapter eighty six of the general statutes, entitled of private corporations, and may be altered amended or repealed as the public good may require.

SEC. 8 This act shall take effect from its passage.

Approved, Nov. 23, 1874.

## CHAPTER VII.

Schools---Old Block House used as first School House---  
Leasing of school lands---School districts---Number Scholars  
1885---Essex County Grammar School.

From an early period of the settlement considerable attention was given to the instruction of the children, in schools supported a few months in each year by subscription or taxation; the first school of which we can learn, was in the year 1788, or 1789, kept in the Block House, (of which we have already spoken,) by a Mr. Bradley, who was afterwards known as "old Master Bradley."

When the town became so far settled as to render it expedient, it was divided into two districts, and schools supported in each of these districts by taxation; one district comprised the village and northern portion of the settlement, and the other district the southern portion.

About the year 1799, a third district was formed of the west, or hill settlement, and the town made arrangements for leasing 150 acres of the school lands, valued at \$2. per acre; rented @ 6 per cent. to be paid annually, and this arrangement continues to the present day.

The town is now divided into 5 districts, and one union district, taking in the portion of the town known as the North Road, and the westerly portion of the town of Maidstone.

No. 1. Is in the south easterly corner of the town, and extends from the Lunenburg line to, and including the Plina Rosebrook farm.

No. 2. Known as the "middle district," takes in all that portion of the town on the river, extending to, and including the place owned by Geo. Willard.

No. 3. Easterly side of Guildhall hill.

No. 4. Village district.

No. 5. South westerly side of Guildhall hill.

No. 6. Union district which has already been described.

The full number of weeks as required by law is, and has been complied with, in all these districts, and the people of the town have always shown a commendable interest in educational matters.

The school houses are in good condition, and well adapted to the wants of the various districts, and are a credit to the town.

We give below the number of scholars in the various districts, one term 1885. In the case of No. 6. we give Guildhall scholars only.

|                     |    |           |
|---------------------|----|-----------|
| District No. 1..... | 22 | Scholars. |
| “ “ 2.....          | 19 | “         |
| “ “ 3.....          | 10 | “         |
| “ “ 4.....          | 38 | “         |
| “ “ 5.....          | 18 | “         |
| “ “ 6.....          | 7  | “         |

---

Total 114.

## ESSEX COUNTY GRAMMAR SCHOOL.

By the terms of the charters of several towns in Essex County, reservations of land were made for the use of a County Grammar School.

November 8th. 1805, the Essex County Grammar School was incorporated and located in Guildhall. The first Academy Building was erected at the south part of the town in 1806, on the very spot where now stands the house in which the writer was born. Mr. John Cushman was the first preceptor and a Mr Leland the second.

The people of the town of Concord became greatly opposed to helping support an Academy so far away from their town, and at the October session of the State Legislature in the year 1823, they were successful in procuring a division of the County school lands, by which that town, (Concord) was to have the benefit of rents accruing from so much of said lands as were situated in their town, and these were the only lands from which any funds had at that time been derived.

During how many years of the intervening time the Academy had been in actual operation we are unable to ascertain, but between the years 1820 and 1830, it was at least a portion of the time sustained under the instruction of Rev. John Fitch and others.

While a term of school was in operation, the first Academy Building was destroyed by fire, and the school was temporarily removed to the village. The next year a second building was erected upon the same location as the first, but this too, was burned, after which schools appear to have been discontinued until 1839, when they were revived and have been kept in operation most of the time since. After the Academy Buildings had been twice destroyed by fire, the location was permanently changed to the village. The number of terms in each year vary from one to two, and the number of pupils at different times from 20 to 100.

Of late years, since the Grand Trunk Railway has by its passing through the County, made the land in the vicinity of its route become of value, some County lands lying in Brighton and towns adjoining have yielded a small income; but not enough to render it unnecessary to depend chiefly upon tuition for supporting the schools.

The income from Public Land Rents is \$64. per year at the present time.



## CHAPTER VIII.

Changes and occurrences in the Atmosphere---Black Friday 1780---Great Snow Storms of 1804, 1807, 1815, 1861 and 1862---Cold Year---Dark Year---Warm Year---The Gale of 1854---That remarkable phenomenon, the Yellow Day 1881---Calamities---Freshets---"Northern Army"---Steamer "Marion" Disaster.

We first give in this chapter some of the changes and occurrences in the atmosphere which have sufficiently stamped their impression upon the minds of early settlers to be remembered.

The first remarkable event in this connection, which we give was the famous BLACK FRIDAY of 1780.

The winter of 1779 and 1780 was a remarkable season, auroral displays being frequent, large spots appearing upon the face of the Sun, the weather taking an unusual severity, and snow six feet deep remaining on the ground from the first of November to the middle of the following April. A backward spring followed, and it was said that previous to the dark day there was a smell of sulphur in the air. May 19th., or Black Friday, was marked by a terrible darkness, a broad belt of gloom extending from the northern half of Pennsylvania, all over New England, and far into Canada.

The morning of the day was overcast with clouds and rainy. Before nine, the rain in a great measure ceased, the clouds appeared more agitated, and the air began to darken. For several hours in the middle of the day the obscurity was so great that those who had good eye-sight

could scarcely see to read common print. The birds and fowls in many places retired to their roosts, as though it had been actually night, and people were obliged to light candles to dine.

Rev. Samuel Stevens, M. D., L. L. D., a well known Astronomer of the time, and a collator of the first annual almanac published in America, said: "It is my opinion that that darkness was not caused by any eclipse, transit, or blazing star, but by an admirable condensity of large quantities of exalted particles that consisted of different qualities."

The next remarkable event was the great snow storm of 1804; on October 9th., of that year, it being extremely cold, it snowed without intermission, until over twenty inches had fallen.

In the month of March 1807, there was another great snow storm. This storm was accompanied by a very high wind. On the first day of May of this year the snow in the woods was fully  $4\frac{1}{2}$  feet deep, and extremely cold weather.

1815 there was a large amount of snow, and May 22d., of that year 9 inches fell; this late storm was followed by cold nights and warm and pleasant days, which made a great run of maple sap; so great indeed was it that it is claimed to have been the greatest on record.

The next year (1816,) is noted as the "COLDEST YEAR." One writer says in relation to it; "this

was before the time of thermometers in this region and it was not ascertained how cold it really was, yet all who passed through that winter say it was the coldest before or since experienced." June 8th., half a foot fell and it froze so hard that vegetation was almost ruined; this freeze was followed by a drouth, and it was with the greatest efforts that even a small late harvest was secured.

The year 1819, has been styled the "DARK YEAR," for the *many* dark days during the year. Among them we think that November 9th., was the darkest; although probably not as dark as May 19th., 1780. During the afternoon stars were seen through the breaks in the clouds.

October 12th., of this year (1819,) there was a very fine display of the aurora borealis.

The "WARM YEAR," was 1828; for that year many rivers, streams and ponds dried up, and were not closed by ice during the ensuing winter. Through the summer months there were some as warm days as were ever here experienced.

January 28th., 1837, there was another remarkable display of the aurora; the sight is said to have been wonderful, and the finest ever witnessed in this section of the country.

#### THE TERRIBLE GALE OF 1854.

On a night in the month of December, 1854, which from all appearances, would have turned out a pleasant one there was the most terrific wind storm which ever visited this place; it was beyond a proper description from our pen.

As people who passed through that night related to the writer the scenes at the time, it made them shudder; one man said, "it was terrible, and we thought the end of the world had surely come." From the description given us, we give the following brief account:— It was between 10 and 12 o'clock in the evening when the wind began to whistle quite loudly, and soon this terrible storm, which came from the Valley of the Upper Amonoosuc River, struck our village; it carried almost everything before it; trees, fences, chimneys, out buildings, etc. were as jack staws in the hands of a giant! The noise was like the sounds which would be heard from ten thousand cannon, each firing a hundred rounds in ten seconds! To say it was *awful*, would be mildly stating it. The toll bridge, which was over 300 feet long, and something like the present one, was taken from its settings and hurled into the rapids many rods below. A shed 40 feet long and 18 feet wide, which stood near where the Congregational parsonage is now located, and back of the old Essex Bank Building, was taken bodily and carried in a southerly direction over all the houses and landed upon the meadow just south of Mr. Geo. Hubbard's dwelling. Thus the wind held sway, until it had satisfied itself, and it cleared off calm so suddenly that the reality of passing through that night seemed like a dream.

In June 1856 there was a great hail storm which did much damage. They were frequent that year.

The winter of 1861 and 1862 was noted for the great

amount of snow which fell; the fences were entirely covered, so that their situation in many cases could not be seen. In the middle of March the snow was from 5 to 7 feet deep; April it was 4 feet, and the track on the roads was nearly as high as the fences. Our oldest inhabitants do not remember so much snow in one winter.

### THE YELLOW DAY.

The famous Black Friday of 1780 will no longer stand alone in the history of New England, for September 6th., 1881 was a phenomenal day which the youthful people will be likely to remember when they shall have become the oldest inhabitants, and one of which the old people now living in this section, in refreshing their recollections, are not able to parallel in the respect, namely, the extraordinary aspect of the earth and sky.

Its gloom did not strike such terror into the hearts of the people as did that of May 19th., 1780; but it found its way into timorous souls to a considerable extent, and there were probably more people filled with wonder and dread than would be willing to confess to the fact.

The day was an uncomfortable one, although the mercury did not climb to an extraordinary height,—the oppressiveness arising from the extreme humidity of the atmosphere combined with an ordinary summer temperature. At an early hour in the morning a very peculiar appearance was perceived in the air. No fog or haze was perceptible, except when looking off toward the horizon from an elevated position. But the Sun was *thoroughly* obscured, and

the atmosphere was pervaded with a yellowish light, which lent a strange appearance to every object. The clouds had a treacherous look, and in the perfect stillness of the atmosphere—so perfect that the leaves upon the tallest trees did not quiver—it was difficult to resist the impression that some frightful outbreak of nature's forces was about to ensue. Some timorous peoples' minds were directed by it to the Scriptural prophecy concerning the brassy appearance of the sky, which is to be one of the features of the last day. In every place where there was grass or foliage, the green hue of the leaves was changed from its natural shade to something much more vivid. There was a weird luster to the surface of the streets and buildings. The interiors of the buildings grew dark as the day advanced, and the outer air, as viewed through any opening, seemed to be pervaded with the reflected light from some vast conflagration. It became necessary to light lamps, and they emitted white flame strangely resembling the electric light. Nothing unusual was observed at the telegraph offices, in regard to the presence of electricity in the air; although some strongly affirmed they could feel it in the tips of their fingers. People were surprised and puzzled. Many asked if the end of the world were not at hand. Some, possibly, feared it might be.

The phenomenon became more marked in the afternoon than it was in the forenoon. As late as one o'clock, it was possible for a person sitting in a window to see to read or write without the aid of artificial light. But after

that hour the gloom deepened rapidly, the sky grew still more hazy in appearance, and the gloom was that of late twilight. The climax was reached at about three o'clock, and after that, light began gradually to return; although perfect daylight was not restored. Before eight o'clock the moon had come out, the clouds had disappeared, and the atmosphere resumed its normal condition.

In regard to the cause of the phenomenon, various opinions were advanced. A majority were of the opinion that it was the smoke from forest fires. Some people have been heard to advance the opinion that the earth had become entangled in the Comet's tail;\* but this opinion is only a bit of facetiousness.

Prof. C. F. Emerson, Professor of Natural Philosophy and Astronomy at Dartmouth College, said: "It must be something in the atmosphere which absorbs the shorter and longer wave lengths, leaving only those which give the color of yellow and green." He thought it might have been owing to the pollen from fir or pine trees, together with the smoke from the forest fires in Canada.

At Harvard Observatory, while disclaiming any professional knowledge of the origin of the phenomenon, the astronomers are inclined to attribute it to the Canadian fires. They think the smoke may have been carried up and caught by the upper current of air, and that the darkness was intensified by the excessive moisture of the lower atmosphere.

\*In regard to this idea which some have advanced, we addressed Prof. E. C. Pickering, of Harvard Observatory, and he very kindly replied as follows:

HARVARD OBSERVATORY. CAMBRIDGE, NOV. 20, 1885.  
 Dear Sir. Your letter of Nov. 18 is at hand. No Comet or Comet's tail was near in September 1881. The conspicuous Comet of that year (Comet 1881 III.) was then so remote as to have ceased to be visible to the naked eye. Comet 1881 VI. passed its perihelion in September, but not near the Earth. Yours Respectfully EDWARD C. PICKERING.  
 EVERETT C. BENTON, Esq., 20 Kilby Street, Boston, Mass.

## CALAMITIES.

We think the people of Guildhall have been fortunate in the fact of so few calamities; although at times events have taken place most shocking, while others have been very sad, accidents which seem to have been almost uncalled for. We shall not attempt to rehearse all the sad events which have transpired in town, and shall only give those of most note. The loss of property by fire, storms, and similar causes has been very light, in comparison with other towns in this vicinity; the loss of life by accidents and from contagious diseases has also been light.

Guildhall is one of the healthy towns in the State; when we consider the fact of so few deaths from contagion especially in the village, we must be inclined to feel that it is a favored spot; while at Groveton, Lancaster and other places near, large parts of, and in some instances, whole families have been taken away by diphtheria and similar diseases, our village escapes with possibly a few light cases.

This rule has held good in most cases, but one we must give way to a little, and in this instance we understand that Guildhall village had fewer cases than neighboring towns. About the year 1824 this part of the country was visited by a terrible disease in the form of dysentery, and the number of deaths was very great; it raged for over two months. At this time Dr. John Dewey, who was then located in the village, was the leading physician in this section. He was constantly with the sick; for weeks at a time did not take off his clothes or lie down for a nights sleep. It is due to his great skill and extraordinary perseverance, that the disease was stopped so soon.



## FRESHETS.

At times considerable damage has been experienced by the water in the Connecticut River, and sometimes the smaller streams in town, overflowing their banks. Fall freshets, though not as common and the volume of water not nearly so great are the most destructive, from the fact that many farmers have not harvested all their crops from their lower meadows.

The first freshet we will mention is the fall freshet of 1771. Most early settlers pitched their tents upon the meadows, with a view of making their residences there, but they were driven off by this freshet; some of their fields were buried in sand to the depth of 2 or 3 feet and they not only lost more or less of their crops for that year but their soil for a number of years. Some of their habitations were invaded and taken possession of by the waters.

The next great freshet was in the year 1842, and it happened in a queer time of the year. July 5th., there commenced a heavy rain storm which swelled the streams to a height seldom, if ever, before that time known. Happening as it did, at that season of the year the damage was great to the mills, roads and farms.

We now come to what probably was the greatest rise of water ever known in this section. The Connecticut River was so high that the whole valley looked like a great lake: Guildhall Village was nearly surrounded by water, while opposite in Northumberland Village the streets were covered in many places to a considerable depth, and very heavy damage was done to several of the streets: in some

instances they were galled out from 15 to 30 feet deep. Many thought that everything in the vicinity of the falls would surely be swept away, including the toll bridge, saw and grist mills, paper mill, straw shed, and several dwellings; but luckily, as soon as the waters had passed the mark of its previous highest altitude, the great river seemed to feel satisfied, and slowly the waters receded until the danger was over. This was the great freshet of the spring of 1876.

We next give a very extraordinary occurrence, in the form of the "NORTHERN ARMY."

This town, with others in the Connecticut Valley, had a queer visitation in the summer of 1770. It was an army of worms which extended from towns in this immediate locality to Northfield, Mass. We give what Rev. Grant Powers says of them in his "History of the Coos Country," although greatly abbreviated. "They began to appear during the latter part of July and continued their ravages until September; the inhabitants denominated them the Northern Army, as they seemed to advance from the north. They were altogether innumerable for multitude. They were seen so thick that whole fields would be covered, and a man could not put down his finger in a single spot without placing it upon a worm. They were unlike anything that the present generation has ever seen: there was a stripe upon the back like black velvet, on either side a yellow stripe from end to end, and the rest of the body was brown. They were sometimes seen not larger than a pin, but in their maturity, they were

as long as a man's finger and proportionably large in circumference. They appeared to be in great haste except when they halted to devour their food; they filled the houses of the inhabitants and entered their kneeding troughs as did the frogs in Egypt; they would go up the side of a house and over it in such a compact column that nothing of boards or shingles could be seen; they did not take hold of the pumpkin vine, peas, potatoes or flax, but wheat and corn disappeared before them as by magic: they would climb up the stalks of wheat, eat off the stalk just below the head and almost as soon as the head had fallen to the ground it was devoured. To prevent this the men would 'draw the rope' as they termed it, that is, two men would take a rope one at each end and pulling from each other until it was nearly straightened, they would then pass through their wheat fields and brush off the worms, and by perpetual action they retarded destruction, but it was doomed finally. The inhabitants also dug trenches around their fields a foot and  $\frac{1}{2}$  deep, but this also failed, as they were soon filled and the millions that were in the rear went over on the backs of their fellows in the trench and took possession of the interdicted food.

About the 1st., of September the worms suddenly disappeared and where they terminated their earthly career is unknown, for not the carcass of a worm was seen in just 11 years. Afterward in 1781, the same kind of a worm appeared again and the fears of the people were much excited, but they were comparatively few in number. They have never been seen since."

This was a terrible blow to the new settlement at this place, as it destroyed the principal grains of that year, and had it not been for the two sources open to them, they must have deserted the town: one was the extraordinary crop of pumpkins; the corn being cut off, the pumpkins remained untouched by the worms, and they grew astonishingly. The other source of support opened to them was by the immense number of pigeons which came through this section immediately upon the disappearance of the worms. Nothing could equal their number unless it was the worms which had preceded them. One writer says that "they were so thick that 3 men in 10 days captured 400 dozen."

Mr. Fred Smith proved the fact of their being so very plenty when he wound up one of his pleasing stories by saying in substance. "They got the old gun which took a pound of powder and an equally large quantity of shot to load it, and went out into the field before daylight, hiding behind a large pine stump, propping the gun into position upon its top. At daybreak the pigeons began to come from all directions and congregate in the field; at the proper time a hat was thrown among them, which made them rise in the air and the gun was discharged! The report was tremendous! It took 15 minutes for the smoke to clear away, and when the morning sun began to shine through the breaks in the clouds of smoke they were *greatly* surprised, astonished and dumbfounded to find that they had not killed a pigeon!! They had delayed

a little too long before firing the gun, the pigeons had risen a little too high: but they picked up 13 bushel baskets full of legs and toes." The reader must themselves judge how much of this story to believe; the fact *does* remain, however, that pigeons were very thick at that time.

#### STEAMER "MARION" DISASTER.

We now pass to that terrible disaster, which cast such a gloom over this community, and took from our midst two of our smartest men: we refer to the accident of May 28th., 1873. For the better and cheaper transportation of material used in manufacturing the various articles produced by the mills at the village, a company was formed and a small steamboat built, which together with a barge 30 feet long and 12 feet wide, was used to accomplish the aforesaid object. They operated for one or two seasons below the falls; going down the river several miles, loading the barge and returning; this did not prove to be a very satisfactory undertaking, as they went down stream unloaded and returned loaded, and as the current in the river is very strong just below the falls it took a long time to return. To overcome this obstacle they proposed to take the steamer and barge above the falls. We give what appears in the Essex County Herald of May 31st., 1873, somewhat changed, yet we think it explains the situation better than we are able to. An accident, resulting in the death of Joseph Chase, of the firm of Robert Chase & Co., and Benjamin F. Poole, son of Jonathan Poole, Jr., occurred here about six o'clock, P. M., May 28th.

Mr. Chase, for the purpose of moving his barge above the dam, had erected a capstan on the N. H., side of the river, near the end of the toll bridge, and attached the barge to it by a line. The current of the river is very rapid at this place, the water being sufficiently high to cover the dam, making no break where it flows over. Upon this barge were Mr. Joseph Chase, Mr. Benj. F. Poole, Mr. E. R. Stuart, Mr. Rollin Brown and Mr. Wm. Poole, and fastened to the barge by a short line was a small skiff. As the barge was cast off from the shore, it was quickly carried to the middle of the river by the force of the current, and was slowly drawn up the stream by winding up the rope around the capstan. As the forward end reached the dam the water broke over it; the men at the time being on the rear end. The force of the current immediately carried it under, but not until Mr. Chase, foreseeing the accident, had time to cut the skiff loose.

When the barge went down the occupants were at once swept out, and all were struggling in the rapids. Mr. Chase unfortunately became entangled in a piece of line which was attached to the barge. The men in charge of the capstan, seeing the accident, let go the line which held the barge, and allowed it to float down the stream. As soon as the strain on the line on the capstan was loosened the barge floated, but it was filled with water. Mr. Chase was then seen for the last time alive struggling in the water below the barge, and as it floated down stream it went over him and held by the line in which he was thus entangled he met his death.

In the meantime the others had made for the skiff which in some way was capsized and filled with water. All succeeded in reaching it with the exception of Rollin Brown, he finding himself sinking threw up his arms. Stuart seeing the sign of distress, left the skiff to which he was clinging and went to his assistance; both went under once, but rose again to the surface, when by great effort they reached the boat, to which they clung as it floated. Franklin Poole at the first sinking of the barge went down, but coming up, succeeded in reaching the boat, but being seized with a fit of coughing, and doubtless strangled by the water, he fell from the boat and sank to rise no more; his body remained in the river until the 10th., of June, when it was found about two miles below where the accident had taken place, and the people here felt greatly relieved as they thought the body would never be recovered; although searching for him was constantly kept up. Mr. Chase was found under the barge with a line wound around one leg below the knee, which had been drawn so tightly as to plainly mark his leg through his clothing. Every effort was made to resuscitate him but in vain; life was extinct when he was taken from the water. He was under the water 10 to 15 minutes, and had in some manner received a bruise, the marks of which were plainly visible on his forehead. Those who sought safety on the skiff, with the exception of Poole, were rescued after having drifted about 30 or 40 rods down the stream in the current.

That any were saved from the perilous position is the chief cause of wonder. It is generally believed by those who witnessed the scene, that but for the presence of mind and manly efforts of E. R. Stuart, Rollin Brown must also have been drowned. Much credit is due him for his noble conduct, and the consciousness of having saved the life of a fellow mortal, is doubtless a sweet reward.

Mr. Chase's death was a sad loss to our village. Mr. Poole, though not so generally known, nor so prominently connected with the business interests of the place, was equally missed by the circle of his friends and acquaintances, as he was of a kind and obliging disposition, and had many warm friends. Mr. Poole was in the 27th., year of his age, and Mr. Chase in his 41st., year. Both were unmarried.



## CHAPTER IX.

Mr. Osgood's Mill—Mr. Bartlett's Mill—Dean Brook—Mills at the falls in the village—Carding Mill—Porashes—Hat factories—Blacksmiths --- Trade --- Hotels --- Maidstone Lake --- Physicians.

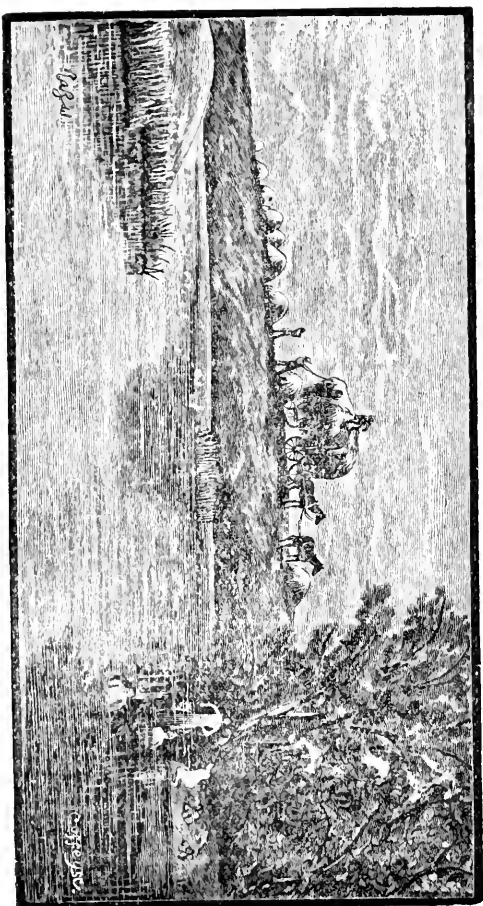
The proprietors of the early town were zealous in their endeavors to promote the settlement of their lands and from the record of a meeting held March 18th., 1779, we find the following: "Whereas Mr. Abner Osgood is building a grist mill in said township, which we suppose will be of great advantage to the settlers, and to encourage him in so good an undertaking—Voted, that we will give him, in case he effects said work, one whole dividing right or share of each proprietor, and that he have liberty to lay out one hundred acres of said right at the place where he builds the grist mill, to be in a square piece, half on one side of the stream and half on the other where he builds said mill; provided, he completes said mill and continues to keep it in good repair, and will hold the same by and under the proprietors." This is from the proprietors records of the town of Maidstone, as they then supposed their town line extended beyond this place; but the mills were built in Guildhall and although Mr. Osgood lost what Maidstone promised, our town more than made his loss good.

This, the first mill built in this county was erected upon the stream now known as mill brook, and on the farm now owned by Mr. Geo. S. Boyce, in the locality known as the "North Road." For want of sufficient water power it was not a very successful affair. The work as already stated was commenced as early as 1778 by Mr. Abner Osgood.

that year he commenced getting out some large timbers, as well as doing something toward starting the work on the dam, but the next year he was assisted by Col. Ward Bailey, and these two men with a few others completed the work. This mill was in operation until the year 1801 when the mill stones were sold and taken to Stark, N. H. Thus making these mill stones about as historic as any in this country, for they were used in the first mills built in the following places viz: Northern N. H., and N. E. Vt., Coos Co., Essex Co., and the towns of Northumberland, Guildhall and Stark. Mr. H. Willard took the writer to the spot where this mill was erected, and we found down in the water the old flume timbers, preserved in good condition to the present day, remaining, as they have, in the water nearly 110 years. There have been two similar mills built on this spot at different times, and this year, (1885) Mr. Sylvester Moody is erecting one.

It appears from a petition to the Legislature of N. H., that Mr. Enoch Bartlett of Haverhill, N. H., built in Northumberland a grist mill and saw mill. These mills were probably built at least only one or two years prior to 1780, being constructed on the stream running into the Connecticut a little above Guildhall Falls, called Dean Brook, and were probably erected near the place where the old Tannery Building now stands, and where Benjamin Rich is to have his Shingle and Lath mill.

DEAN BROOK, AS IT ENTERS THE CONNECTICUT.





It is hardly probable that they were built at the falls on the Connecticut,\* as it required the co-operation of parties on both sides of the river to accomplish what was then the very hard task of building a dam across the river, and it seems that the Guildhall people were not in harmony with this man's idea of building mills in this region, for as has been already stated in his petition, which appears in a previous chapter, in Sept. 1779, a party from the Vermont side of the river, went over to this mill and cut and destroyed the water wheels, shafts and other articles in the mill and took when they returned all the iron work, mill stones and gear, also what boards were convenient to carry, and used them in the completion of their own mills.

Most of our writers in various sketches of different parts of this locality, claim that the Guildhall mill was the first built in this region: we wish it were so, and in fact such may have been the case, but we have shown that mills were erected in Northumberland and the materials therefrom taken to complete a mill being built in Guildhall.

We do not say that any one from Guildhall did these acts of injustice, in tearing down and destroying property in the Granite State but will let others judge for themselves;

\*We do not stand alone in making these assertions, for in a conversation with Dr. I. W. Watson of Concord, N. H., Secretary of the State Board of Health, for that State, and formerly a very able Physician at Groveton, N. H., he first gave us the idea. We wish to add that the Dr. is very thoroughly preparing a history of the town of Northumberland, which we hope will soon be published. People of Northumberland should appreciate his efforts and help him to publish a grand history of that historic town, which in early days contained two of the four forts which were erected in this section, and were used as places of safety by the settlers for many years, or until the time of danger and peril was over.

nevertheless, this Mr. Bartlett said that the Vermonters did take his mill stones etc., and used same in the construction of their own mills, and as the Guildhall mill was the only other one built in this region for years, it looks as if Mr. Bartlett's property was instrumental in the advancement of our town. On the other side it was claimed that the parties taking this property away had bought it and had a perfect right to do as they did. Whether they ever paid for it, is another thing; and from the fact that the New Hampshire authorities never took the property back by force, or in any other way, it rather looks as though the Guildhall "thieves and robbers" were not that kind of people, but did what has been done in town a great many times since, *i. e.*, bought property which they did not pay for. Guildhall people from that day to the present time were never known to steal to any great extent.

In the year 1786 the first mills were erected at the falls on the Connecticut by Col. Ward Bailey; this was a great blessing to this portion of the country, for up to that year there had been no framed houses erected, for want of necessary material. These mills were of the old stamp, and were operated until about 1844.

In the neighborhood of 1800, a Carding mill was built in the village, which run for a number of years, and the owners were very successful, as this was one of the first mills of this kind constructed in this section.

There was also as early as 1800, a Distillery, and later a Brick-yard erected, and both were located in the pasture now owned by Mr. Hubbard Willard; and also several Potash establishments in town; this in those days was quite a pursuit. There were two in the village; one stood where is now Mr. H. E. Hubbard's garden, and the other on the meadow back of Mr. Geo. Hubbard's dwelling.

A queer incident took place in this latter one a great many years ago. An old nigger died in town, and the doctors thought they would dissect his body. As they wished to keep the matter quiet, thought they would go to this potash and boil the flesh from his bones: accordingly late one night they went to this place and started a rousing fire under the large kettle, which was partly filled with lye; they put the nigger in and sat around the fire telling stories etc., until, as it was getting very late, and stories had given out they partially fell asleep. While they were in this state the body becoming swollen and the lye boiling at a great rate in the kettle, all at once, out he came! right over on some of them who were sleeping!! Frantically they flew for the door: out into the cool air, of that beautiful night, they came to their senses and looking each other in the face for a few minutes, each wondering which was the greatest fool, when they mustered up courage and returned, replaced the unfortunate colored man to his place in the kettle, and completed the job they set out to do.

Mr. Milton Cutler says "in early years, before cotton had become the great article it now is, tow-and-linen flourished to quite an extent and premiums were offered by towns to the family that produced the greatest number of yards in any one year, and dressed flax was an article of export."

About the year 1820, there was a hat factory near the bridge, in the village, and afterwards one in the house now owned by Mr. C. E. Benton. A comical incident happened in the first named factory many years ago. They used to keep a little "spirit" on hand most of the time, so Luke Parsons an old blacksmith in town thought he would take advantage of the occasion, as he saw a bottle behind the door and all the men were in another room, to take a drink. He took up the bottle taking a good swig, but to his surprise it proved to be *oil of vitrol!* The dose was a severe one, for it nearly killed him. A lady in town at that time composed a few lines about it; we are unable to give them in full, but some were told the writer by one of the older citizens in town which we give.

"I went into the Hatter's Shop,  
And there I took my dram :  
I took the oil of vitrol  
Which liked to ruined me.  
I sent for a Physician  
Who came in a great haste  
You, my worthy Sodomite,\*  
Take warning then by me ;  
Never take a bitter pill  
For death t'will surely be."

\*Gullethall Village was at one time nick named Sodom.



Col. Henry Hall, for a great many years, run an extensive harness and saddle factory in the village.

In the year 1830 Gilbert B. Mann built a saw mill on the Burnside Brook, nearly half a mile from the river, which did considerable business during high water. Mr. Keyes constructed a similar mill there later, about the same as Mr. Mann's mill; the latter was taken down in 1885, and removed to Mill Brook by Mr. Moody, to aid him in the construction of his mill at that place.

Several mills have been erected on other streams at various times, but some years since became extinct.

Mr. James Hall and others built new mills at Guildhall Falls, about the year 1845; they were a Saw Mill, and Grist Mill. They have been at various times remodeled and greatly improved. Mr. Hall run the mills for a number of years. Jacob Rich purchased from Mr. Hall, and Mess. Moore & Chase, from Mr. Rich, in the spring of 1866. This firm not only operated the mills on the Vt. side of the river, but controlled all the mills at this place, on both sides of the Connecticut. In 1873 they dissolved partnership, Mr. Moore taking the Guildhall mills and Mess. R. Chase & Co., those in Northumberland. In 1880, Mr. Moore sold out to John B. Parker and Wm. H. Gray, who now operate these mills. They manufacture from four to six million feet of lumber each year beside large quantities of laths, shingles and clapboards.

The village hay scales, which stood in the square near

the Essex House, were for a long time the standard scales of this section, but there was almost always dissatisfaction regarding the figures which were given and claimed to be the correct weight of the many various things which were taken to these scales to be weighed. Seeing the necessity of having in this locality scales which would determine accurately the weight of any thing in this line, the firm of R. Chase & Co., (who had had a similar pair near their mills in Northumberland, and these too being of no value to them in the capacity of scales,) bought a new pair, a New York State make. The new scales were placed near their store, and soon after, the Guildhall scales were taken up and removed, for Mr. Chase had put before the people of this section scales which proved so clearly their superiority over those just mentioned that the new ones completely run out the others. The scales which were removed were Fairbanks scales, but were very old and the owner neglected to keep them in repair.

#### BLACKSMITHS.

Among some of the more prominent blacksmiths who have carried on business in town we find Mr. Oliver Hancock was the first mentioned blacksmith, and founder and in consideration of "his extraordinary ingenuity" he was voted 90 acres of land, "provided he or any other person on the premises, do business 8 years."

Mr. John Ross was a blacksmith in town for over 20 years; he had his shop on land near where Frank Hall's storehouse is now situated.

Luke Parsons was one of Guildhall's blacksmiths, years ago. Mr. Proctor was a blacksmith and had erected a new shop when Mr. Jonathan Poole bought him out, and carried on business at that place from 1858, until his death, Sept. 21, 1885.

### TRADE.

At one time Guildhall was the chief town of this section as regards trade, as well as in all other ways. There are at the present time two general merchandise stores in town. They do a good business, yet the larger part of trading by the people of our town is done at Lancaster.

Among the early traders were Thos. H. Tillotson, and afterwards the firm of Tillotson & Carlisle.

Geo. E. Holmes kept store in a building which stood on land between the two stores now in the village.

Edward A. Webb traded in a building which stood where Mr. Geo. Hubbard's dwelling is now located.

Greenleaf Webb for a good many years had a store in the old bank building, and afterwards the firm of Grinnell & Webb traded in the same place.

About 1840, Allen Gould took this old store; he soon had a partner, and the firm of Gould & Nelson did a flourishing business for a number of years.

John Burt had a store on the first floor of the Essex House about 1842. In 1843 Geo. Hubbard bought out this store; he continued his business in this building two years when he removed to the old corner store, where he remained some seven years.

For want of more and better rooms, he built a new store building, where he remained some 16 years. Mr. Hubbard sold his store and business at this time to Mess. Hall & Copp, who traded in this place for a while, but finally Mr. Hall bought Mr. Copp's interest, and he continues business at this place to the present time.

The other store now kept in the village was originally built, and run by a Mr. Blodgett, and for a long time was known as the "Blodgett store." Mr. Darling kept here for a few years, also Hon. Wm. H. Hartshorn, and a Mr. Wood; in later years Mr. Geo. Hubbard and his sons, Thos. H. and Horace E. The latter now runs this store.

#### HOTELS.

Although several individuals at different times and in different parts of the town had kept a sort of public house, yet we believe Mr. Nathan Cass was the first regular hotel keeper, for in the year 1800, he obtained from the County Court a tavern license, and we think he had already kept tavern some years, but it seems that others were also keeping public places, for at the next term of Court in 1801, David Hopkinson, and John Dana also received tavern licenses.

We will not attempt giving a list of people who have kept public houses at various times in town, for at one time, all through the country there was a tavern every few miles, but since the Railroads have been constructed through the valleys of this region, we find the hotels have dropped off, until now we have only one, which is very





MADSTONE LAKE.

pleasantly located in the village. This is the Essex House, which is one of the best hotels in this section of the State, and is very hospitably run by Mr. Charles E. Hartsborn who is liked by all who chance to stop there.

To people who go to the country to spend the summer months, we would especially recommend this house; the surroundings cannot be beaten. It is within a few hours ride of Mount Washington, 15 miles to Brunswick Springs and 7 miles to Maidstone Lake. Although seemingly foreign to the subject of this History, we cannot help saying a few words about this beautiful lake, which is located so near our town. The lake is surrounded entirely by forests of the most beautiful pine, spruce and hemlock trees.

It is three miles long and one mile wide. Its waters are clear, deep and silvery, containing a species of trout called lunge. It is one of the lovely and romantic spots of the State. Near the easterly side of the lake, and near the base of a hill is a cave, which is a most wonderful place. One can traverse its subterranean passage for many hundred feet.

We could devote a whole chapter in telling of the advantages which this Town and Hotel offer to those wishing a pleasant and beautiful spot to spend a few weeks in the summer, but will simply say that when once in this, the coming resort of the county, you are at a place where in one hour's time you can either be in the wilds of the Green Mountains, or climbing the steep hills of the White Mountain State.

## PHYSICIANS.

The following individuals have been resident physicians in town; the dates given generally express the time in which each individual was practicing medicine either in town or vicinity, the precise number of years each remained we are unable to give. Beside those given there were some others, of whom particulars in many cases, cannot be readily obtained.

Dr. Gott, 1785.

Dr. Zadok Sampson,  
1790.

Dr. Thayer, 1805.

Dr. Geo. A. Bolton 1810.

Dr. Mc. Dole 1820.

Dr. Bernice Richardson,  
the year we are unable  
to give.

Dr. John Dewey, 1824.

Dr. Walter Burnham  
1830.

Dr. Saml. Curtis 1835.

Dr. James Bullock 1838.

Dr. H. L. Watson 1840

Dr. B. W. Dodge 1860

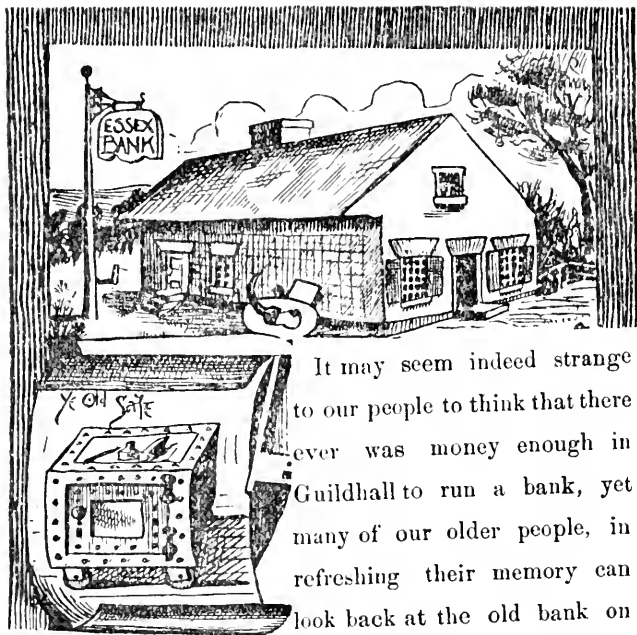
Dr. N. S. Boyce 1862

Dr. W. H. Leith 1884.



## CHAPTER X.

### The old Essex Bank—Newspapers.



It may seem indeed strange to our people to think that there ever was money enough in Guildhall to run a bank, yet many of our older people, in refreshing their memory can look back at the old bank on the corner, which so flashingly sprang up in the early part of this century, but faded out almost as quickly as it came. Very little is apparently known of this bank at the present time, we may say especially among the younger people or even among those who are the active men of this generation. As the most information we are able to obtain in regard to this bank is contained in a report to the Vermont State Legislature, we here publish the

“REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE UPON THE  
AFFAIRS OF THE ESSEX COUNTY BANK.

To the honorable the General Assembly of the State of Vermont now in session:

Your committee, appointed at the last session of this General Assembly, ‘to investigate the situation and concerns of the Bank of Essex County, etc.,’ respectfully report—

That, in attending to the duties assigned them, they have availed themselves of all the light which the books and papers of the bank now in the hands of the receiver, and the testimony of the president and cashier, would throw upon its transactions, and they believe they cannot better carry out the views of the General Assembly, than by giving a history of the leading acts of the bank, from its organization to the termination of its business.

The Essex Bank was chartered at the October session of 1832, with a capital of \$40,000, divided into 1000 shares of \$40. each, subject to the provisions of the safety fund act of 1831, requiring that fifty per cent of its capital stock should be paid in, previous to its making any discounts.

The books were opened by the commissioners, the stock subscribed in proper form, and the first board of directors duly elected. On the 15th. day of April, 1833, one of the bank commissioners certified that \$20,000. had been paid in as capital stock, agreeably to the requirements of the charter.

On the 16th day of April, 1833, the bank commenced its operations, at which time the cashier charged himself with the capital stock, consisting of a certificate of a deposit of specie in the Grafton Bank \$10,000, current bills \$8,537. and specie \$1,463. amounting in the whole to \$20,000.

On the same day \$17,845. of the capital stock placed in the bank as aforesaid, and on the 22d., of the same April \$400. more of said stock was taken out of the bank, by some of the stockholders, substituting their private notes therefor, leaving only the sum of \$1,755. and the notes of the stockholders for the sum of \$18,215. to secure the redemption of the bills of the bank, which were afterwards to be put in circulation. Of the above sums taken from the bank, John Dewey received \$15,460. and Thomas Carlisle received \$1,500. they being the principal owners of the stock.

The first bills of the bank were prepared for emission on the 6th day of May 1833, up to which time no loans or discounts were made to persons other than the stockholders, in manner above described.

In consequence of the loss of that part of the discount register which contained the transactions of the bank up to July 1833, your committee are unable to ascertain on what security the discounts to stockholders were made, but from the statements of Greenleaf Webb, one of the directors, they are led to the conclusion that no security other than a pledge of the stock was required.

Your committee would here remark that from the manner of keeping the books of the bank, they have been unable to ascertain the time of the paying of the above, or any other of the notes of the bank, except they find that John Dewey paid \$2,000. on his note above named, Aug. 1 1833, and they are thereby precluded from ascertaining all the liabilities and responsibilities of the officers of the bank at any given time during its existence.

It is worthy of remark, that for several years after the bank went into operation, it labored under embarrassments in the redemption of its bills, and was frequently obliged to obtain loans in Boston and elsewhere, some-

times at a high rate of interest, and that many of its individual loans were extravagantly large, considering the amount of its capital. In one instance they find a loan was made to John Dewey of \$15,720. This was Feb. 4, 1834, at a well-remembered time of severe embarrassments in the money market, and at a time when the bank was very much embarrassed. In some instances large loans were made without adequate security: two loans were made to Norton, Carlisle & Co. of Buffalo, N. Y., of \$3,300, which were protested Nov. 15, 1836, and April 29, 1837, which are still unpaid and are probably wholly uncollectable. There was also loaned for the benefit of persons residing in Portland, Maine, \$5,100, which was protested July 24 1837, and passed into the hands of the receiver, who compromised with the endorsers on the payment of twelve and one half per cent.

The dividend book of the bank exhibit the dividends of the bank as follows:

|                         |          |
|-------------------------|----------|
| July 6, 1835, .....     | \$1,000. |
| January 11, 1836, ..... | \$1,000. |
| July 1836, .....        | \$600.   |
| March 11, 1839, .....   | \$1,000. |

The last of the above dividends was made on the stock as it was owned August 10, 1839, of which John Dewey received \$817, and Thomas Carlisle \$112, although said Carlisle, as a member of the firm of Norton, Carlisle & Co., was then indebted to the bank in the sum of \$3,300, and the note of said firm was then in the bank protested.

It will be seen, that at the time of making said last mentioned dividend, the whole of the protested paper, above described, was in the bank and composed part of its assets; there was also a large amount of suspended paper or bad notes then in the bank, and also composed a

part of said assets, and upon all which said dividend was declared, and the object of the peculiar manner in which it was so declared, will be perceived when the circumstances of the transfer of the stock, which undoubtedly led to the *finale* of the concern, are stated.

The first board of directors was composed of John Dewey, Greenlief Webb, Chapin K. Brooks, Josiah B. Hall, and John S. Wells, who severally lodged their respective bonds with the Treasurer of the State, for the sum of \$8,000. each, with one surety to each bond, who were mostly irresponsible men; all the bonds subsequently executed, except a part of those in 1839, have sureties of undoubted responsibility. John Dewey was elected first president, and continued such until Sep. 17, 1838, when Greenlief Webb was substituted.

Your committee find that, as usual, there were many transfers of stock, but the principal portion of it fluctuated between John Dewey, Greenlief Webb, Thos. Carlisle, and Norton, Carlisle & Co., of Buffalo, N. Y., although Norton, Carlisle & Co., were indebted to the bank at the time of the transfer of their stock, contrary to the provisions of the act of incorporation.

In the summer of 1838, H. Bradley, Esq., of Burlington, who was then bank inspector, received information that some persons from the State of New York were attempting to purchase the stock of the Essex Bank.

He immediately went to Guildhall to attempt to prevent the sale, and received an assurance from John Dewey, who owned most of the stock, that no such sale should be made without his consent.

Sometime afterwards E. S. Townsend, of Palmyra, N. Y., called on Mr. Bradley with a letter of introduction from Dr. Dewey. Townsend wished Bradley to give his consent in writing to a transfer of the stock to him by Dewey, but he absolutely refused, and Townsend left, saying he could not obtain the stock.

On the 17th. of August, 1838, John Dewey transferred to Thomas Carlisle 790 shares of the stock of said bank, who on the same day transferred 400 shares to Isaac F. Mack, of Rochester, N. Y., and 400 shares to E. S. Townsend. In March 1839, Carlisle transferred to Mack 141 additional shares, which, with 4 shares obtained from other sources, made Mack & Townsend the owners of the whole stock of the bank, save 55 shares. For several years before the above transfer, and ever since, said Carlisle has been reputed a bankrupt, and has not possessed any visible estate either real or personal, and it was in proof before your committee that Dewey negotiated the sale to Mack & Townsend, and received the purchase money of them for the shares pretendedly sold them by Carlisle, and your committee have yet to learn for what good purpose this roundabout method was adopted, for conveying the shares of Dewey to Mack & Townsend, but they feel constrained to say that they can regard it in no other light than a mere artifice to protect Dewey from liability, and also to avoid the imputation of having broken his promise to Mr. Bradley.

Your committee are satisfied that when Mack & Townsend bought the stock, they knew that the notes and funds called capital stock were for the most part of no value, and that the assumed sum of \$18,820, sold them as capital was mostly fictitious and false, and that they intended at the time of purchasing said stock, to raise the credit of

the bank, which was then at a low ebb, by redeeming its bills promptly in the city of New York, for a short time, and then to flood the country with them and let the bank fail, and that they were only prevented from fully consummating their plan by their own failure, which took place soon after.

The bargain between Dewey and Mack & Townsend was privately made: neither the public, nor the officers of the bank, nor any other person that your committee have been able to find, knew of the terms and conditions of the sale of said stock until the bank had wholly failed to redeem its bills, which took place Aug. 14, 1839.

The terms of the sale were, as your committee are well satisfied, that Mack & Townsend paid \$30. for each share of \$20. the vendors to retain all accumulated surplus, estimating the entire debts of the bank as solvent and collectable.

Your committee have no means of ascertaining with absolute certainty the time and mode of payments for the stock purchased by Mack & Townsend, but are well satisfied that payments were made at the time of purchase in the bills of banks, other than the Essex, borrowed for the express purpose, and that the loans thus obtained were afterwards paid in the bills of Essex Bank.

|                                                                                                                                                  |            |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|
| At the time of the sale, the bank had \$44,907. of its bills in circulation, and owed other sums of money, and had in its vaults in specie ..... | \$319.08   |
| Foreign bills.....                                                                                                                               | \$1,200.00 |
| State orders.....                                                                                                                                | \$60.00    |
| Deposits in the Market Bank, Boston .....                                                                                                        | \$991.64   |
| <hr/>                                                                                                                                            |            |
| Amounting to .....                                                                                                                               | \$2,570.72 |

The residue of its effects consisted of notes and accounts, more than \$12,000. of which were and still are hopelessly bad, and of the remainder several thousands of dollars were very doubtful and still remain unpaid, and from which, in the opinion of your committee, very little, if anything, can ever be realized.

It is evident, from all the evidence in the case, that for 945 shares of the nominal value of \$18,900. and made up mostly of worthless and protested paper, Mack & Townsend paid \$28,350. in cash. This act and the circumstances attending it, carry internal evidence of the object of the parties: it was pregnant with mischief, and afforded an ample opportunity for the perpetration of the most outrageous frauds upon the public.

Sept. 24, 1838, at a meeting of the board of directors, composed of John Dewey, Greenlief Webb, and W. Heywood, Jr., it was voted 'that John Dewey be allowed and paid \$3,500. for his services as president of the bank from April 15, 1833, to Aug. 17, 1838, and for the balances of interest on his deposits up to the last date,' which sum was subsequently allowed to him; and although there is no evidence that said Dewey had previously received anything for his services, except when abroad on business of the bank, your committee are given to understand that the above vote, together with the dividend of March 11, 1839, were the means adopted to give the sellers of the stock the pretendedly accumulated surplus before mentioned, in compliance with the contract with Mack & Townsend. On the 17th, and 20th, of Aug. and 12th, of Sept. 1838, the bank loaned Mack & Townsend \$32,000. about one half of which was loaned on the paper of Mack, Patterson & Co., a firm composed of Mack & Townsend and one Thos. J. Patterson, who was then and still is a responsible man, and the residue on the paper of Mack & Townsend; a part of the debt of Mack, Patterson & Co., was afterwards paid, and the remainder with the paper of Mack & Townsend, was renewed, and afterwards formed a part of their notes of \$60,440. hereinafter described.



It was agreed between the officers of the bank and Mack & Townsend, at the time of the above loan, that Mack & Townsend should place funds in the hands of some person in the city of New York, for the redemption of the bills of the bank.

On the 25th. of August 1838, Mack & Townsend executed a bond of \$20,000. to the bank, to secure the bank for loans made or to be made to them, with several sureties residing in the western part of the State of New York, who, there is reason to believe, were wholly irresponsible at the time.

On the 10th. of Sept. 1838, the directors voted an assessment of \$5. on each share of the stock of the bank, and on the 24th. of the same Sept. a like assessment was voted.

The stock ledger shows a credit of \$4,720. on account of the first assessment, but no other entry appears on the books in relation to it, and no other mention is made of the second.

The issue book shows that \$107,600.00 of bills had been prepared for emission, \$20,100.00 were prepared after the sale to Mack & Townsend, from blanks furnished by them \$28,229. of which passed into the hands of the receiver, leaving \$79,371 00 in circulation.

The bank was enjoined by the chancellor, Oct. 12. 1839, and its effects passed into the receiver's hands Nov. 4. '39.

From a statement of the receiver it appears, that when he took possession of the bank, its outstanding bills were \$79,371.; of that sum \$3,000. had been pledged for the payment of a loan and have since been returned to the receiver, and \$5,770. have been delivered to him by Houghtons & Co., brokers of the city of New York, as redeemed bills, exhibiting an actual circulation of \$70,601.

It was proved before your committee by the cashier of the bank, that the bank sent \$10,000. to said Houghtons & Co., after the sale to Mack & Townsend, to redeem the bills of the bank, that he subsequently demanded the redeemed money of them for the bank, but they refused to let him have it, saying that they should sell it to pay the liabilities of Mack & Townsend to them, and your committee have strong reasons to believe that a large amount of bills presented to the receiver by pretended claimants, have been redeemed with the funds of the bank, and it is clearly proved that a large amount of the bills presented to the receiver for payments, were presented by persons other than the real owners, and your committee are not satisfied that they were so presented for any honest or honorable purpose.

One of the Houghtons appeared before your committee and requested to be examined, but before the examination closed, he utterly refused to answer questions put him, calculated to ascertain the amount of money redeemed by them with the funds of the bank, and how much money thus redeemed, he had caused to be deposited with the receiver in the names of other persons—and said he could not tell the amount of money redeemed by them, or the amount of funds received by them to redeem the bills with, within the sum of \$5,000.

He however admitted that they had been employed by Mack & Townsend to redeem the bills, and that they had received funds to a considerable amount, both from Mack & Townsend and the bank, and that when they received the bills of the bank that were not to be put in circulation they punched a hole through them.

A large amount of the bills deposited with the receiver have holes punched through them, and some of the packages appear not to have been separated since they were

punched in the manner described by Houghton—there is now in the hands of the receiver a package of \$7,500. which was forwarded by Houghtons & Co. and deposited in the name of one J. W. Martin.

Mack & Townsend's notes are in the hands of the receiver to the amount of \$60,410.00 all of which bear date March 16, 1839, except one note of \$5,000. with no security whatever except said \$20,000. bond, which also passed into the hands of the receiver, has been sued, judgment obtained and the execution returned *nulla bona*, both as to principals and sureties.

It is a remarkable fact that several of the notes now in the hands of the receiver against Mack & Townsend, correspond exactly in amount with several of the bills of sale of said stock, from Carlisle to Mack & Townsend.

At the time the bank received the \$20,000. bond, it was accompanied by a certificate of the cashier of the Wayne County Bank, certifying that said bond was good.

The indebtedness of the bank, as reported by the cashier, other than as above stated, was \$3,840.39 which accrued from money borrowed by John Dewey, on the notes of John Dewey, Greenlief Webb and Wm. Heywood, Jr., (against which, the said Dewey holds the indemnity of the said Webb and Heywood,) to enable the bank to redeem its bills after the sale to Mack & Townsend; they having failed to furnish funds as they had agreed, said notes still remain outstanding and are unpaid.

The nominal assets of the bank, which passed into the hands of the receiver, were:— Discounted notes and other evidences of debt . . . . \$94,907.79.

John Dewey's receipts for notes held

by him as collateral security . . . \$9,457.50.

---

Amounting to . . . . \$104,365.29

included in the above are the notes of Mack & Townsend.

Of the debts other than those of Mack & Townsend, the receiver reports \$10 or 12,000. absolutely bad. \$6,402. collected, and a large proportion of the balance extremely doubtful. The time limited by the Chancellor for presenting claims against the bank to the receiver, expired on the first day of Sept. 1842. at which time there had been collected by the bills of Essex Bank     \$5,639.

Deposited by claimants.     .     .     .     \$31,426.

Amounting to     .     .     .     .     \$40,065.

which deducted from \$73,001. leaves \$30,536. still outstanding, and it is apparent that the bank has run under more than £60,000.

At the winding up of the business concerns of the bank, on the 14th, and 15th, days of August 1839, writs of attachment were issued against the bank, but no property of any value could be found, except \$19.41 in specie, an 'Iron Safe,' some packages of unsigned bills, a few blank books, and a few sticks of sealing wax."

The committee then advanced its ideas to the Legislature, etc., being composed of:

David Hibbard, Jr.,

Daniel Cobb,

Sewall Fullam.

Dated at Montpelier, Oct. 24, 1842.

### NEWSPAPERS.

Guildhall, (though at the present time not favored with a newspaper,) has had at various times three papers.

"The Guildhall Methodist," a religious paper, published by the M. E. Church, having for its motto: "An earnest Christianity, a definite Experience, and a clear Testimony," was issued in April 1876. It was probably an experimental sheet, for only one edition was published.

"The Guildhall News," a small sheet issued in 1878, was also an experimental paper, and only 3 editions printed.

"The Essex County Herald," our county paper, has arrived at that point, where, (if it ever were an experimental undertaking,) all doubts are now removed as to its being a success, for it certainly is a success, and as it is at the present time managing, a great benefit to this section.

It has had its "ups and downs;" at times prosperous, and at other times certainly a sheet which would hardly promote the best interests of the county, which its motto pledges to do. The first issue was January 11, 1873, with H. C. Bates as editor. O. B. Boyce was editor for a year or so. April 7, 1877, N. A. Burnham got control of the paper, but as this man was not as successful as he wished to be, he finally withdrew from the State.

The "Herald," though published at Guildhall was not printed here until 1877, that part of the work being done at Lancaster. Mr. Burnham, after running the paper in Guildhall a year or so, and wishing to be in a town where he thought he could probably command more advertising moved himself, and the paper, to Island Pond Village in Brighton, where it is now printed.

Mr. W. H. Bishop, the present editor and proprietor, is to be congratulated for placing before the county people the nice clean sheet he does; his editorials are sharp and very able; his news items are always the best, and latest; his local items are nicely arranged and show that he has a select staff of correspondents.

## CHAPTER XI.

Ecclesiastical Affairs—Congregationalist Church and Society—  
Methodist Episcopal Church—Sabbath Schools.

The first settlers of this town, while few and poor, manifested a great desire to secure for themselves and families such religious privileges as they had left in the various older places from which they had severally emigrated: and at an early date, put forth the corresponding endeavors. In accordance with the laws and usages of that day, when they began to act as a regularly organized town, they also took in hand, by authority, the business of not only employing and paying ministers of their persuasion, but of building a meeting house for their occupancy, and only those who filed with the town clerk an authentic testimony that they belonged to another sect, and protested against being taxed for the support of this, were legally exempt from such taxation.

In 1788, the town at their annual meeting.

“Voted to raise twenty-five bushels of wheat to hire a preacher, and horse keeping and board.”

“24th. Voted Eleazer Rosebrook and Ward Bailey be a committee to hire a preacher.”

So it will be seen that as early as 1788, the people of Guildhall commenced to make exertions to procure the preaching of the Gospel in this town.

July 25, 1789, a warning for a town meeting was posted, and in it was the following:

“To see what encouragement the town will give towards settling a minister of the Gospel in conjunction with the towns of Lancaster and Northumberland.”

“3d. To appoint a committee to meet and confer with committees of the other towns respecting the settlement of a minister.”

“4th. To appoint a committee to petition the general assembly to grant the town liberty to join themselves into parish with the towns of Lancaster and Northumberland.”

At the meeting to which this warning refers, Ward Bailey, Benoni Cutler and Eleazer Rosebrook were chosen as the committee.

In various records we find:

“Voted to give Mr. Bell as a settlement 335 bushels of good merchantable wheat, provided he settles in the town of Guildhall.”

“Voted Mr. Bell 80 bushels of wheat as a salary annually until there are 80 ratable polls at the age of 16 years or upwards in the town where the said Mr. Bell settles, provided he settle in either of the towns of Guildhall, Lancaster or Northumberland, and the said towns will agree to divide the distance of holding meetings of public worship according to each town’s pay.”

These votes were often repeated, and in many cases the sum of \$40. was pledged for like purposes.

It appears that the first preachers were missionaries, and principally from the State of Connecticut, most of them being Congregationalists. The first was a Mr. Bell,

who, as has been shown, was referred to at several meetings of the town; he was never permanently located in the town, nor did he form a society. Among other Congregationalists were Mr. Ripley, Mr. Nathaniel Waldo, Mr. Caleb Noble, during the earlier years, and later Mr. Nott, Mr. Hart and Mr. Ainsworth, of N. H. Rev. Elijah R. Sabin was a traveling preacher, and formed a band of Methodists as early as 1801. For what length of time each may have labored in town we cannot give.

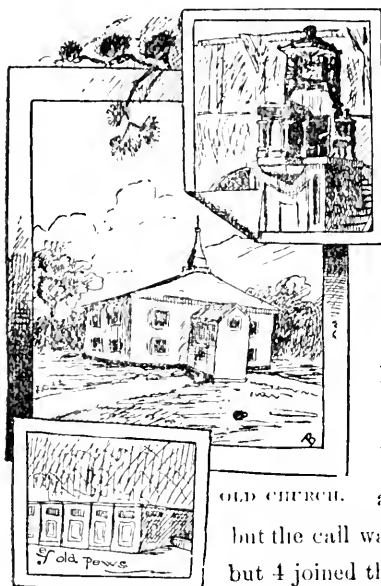
There has always been a decided majority of the people of the town in favor of Congregationalism, and of this sect were the first preachers. There has been for many years a large society of Methodists and the church-going people in town are mostly of either one or the other, yet now and then a person will be found whose belief is not in accordance with either, but they are rarely met with.

#### THE CONGREGATIONAL SOCIETY.

The Congregational Church in Guildhall was the first regularly founded religious body in town, and its organization dates back to 1799. April 1st. of that year through the instrumentality of Rev. Seldon Church, of Northumberland, and Joseph Willard of Lancaster, the society was formed: it consisted of 7 members, 3 males and 4 females: their names were, Benoni Cutler, Joseph Berry, Samuel R. Hall, Elizabeth Hall, Sarah R. Berry, Mercy Howe, and Hannah Amy; the first clerk being Mr. Hall. November 24, 1803, is the date of the next record in which we find that Samuel R. Hall and Joseph Berry were the first chosen deacons, and we find that a



committee was chosen to assist the deacons in examining candidates for fellowship with the church; their names were, Heman Bassett, Daniel Dana and Wm. Cutler.



In the meantime 26 names had been added to the church records, and the society was in a very prosperous condition, the meetings being carried on by Messrs. Bell and Ripley.

In 1805 Mr. Waldo was called by the town and church to settle, but the call was not accepted, and but 4 joined the year previous.

In 1807 Mr. Caleb Noble was called; not accepted.

In 1801 the town made provision for building a church and appointed Capt. Simon Howe, Wm. Cutler and Z. Perkins, committee for such purpose; also Lemuel Holmes, Wm. Amy and S. R. Hall to draw the plan. The place chosen was the centre lot in town, and situated on the hill; the spot has ever since been known as Meeting House Hill. The place would now be considered very much out of the way, but then it was central.

We find that Lemuel Holmes, Isaac Bundy and Saml. Howe formed a committee to sell pews.

The building of the house was to go to the man who would build it the cheapest. Mr. Nathan Cass bid \$2400. and it was struck off to him. He furnished men and materials and in 1805 it was completed.

July 8, 1808, the church by a unanimous vote, gave Rev. Caleb Burge "a call to be installed over us in the Lord." The call was accepted and on the last Wednesday of August following he was installed first pastor of the church and society, sustaining that relation with success for a number of years. February 16th, 1814, he was dismissed, for want of adequate support, consequent upon the deaths of many, and the removals of many others, also the public calamities resulting from the war with Great Britain. Number of new members while Mr. Burge was with the church 99; 74 uniting in 1810; 41 in one day.

From 1814 to 1822 the records only show occasionally a business meeting.

In 1822-3, Rev. Andrew Rankin preached, and 45 new members were added. January 1823, they extended an invitation to him to settle, but he declined.

From 1823 to 1829, there was no regular preaching and during that period only 5 joined the church.

Rev. James Tisdale was called and September 29, 1830, he was ordained pastor; he labored  $\frac{3}{4}$  of the time in Guildhall and  $\frac{1}{4}$  in Granby; 28 were added through his preaching.

He was dismissed May 5th. 1836. The following summer Jonathan Blanchard supplied the desk for a short time, 10 being added to the church.

Next we find Rev. Wm. E. Holmes, filling the pulpit for a year.

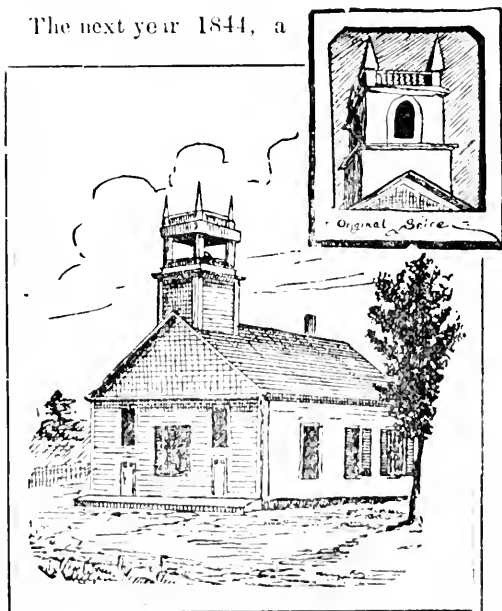
October 14, 1837, Francis P. Smith, formerly an attorney at law, was invited to become pastor; he removed his family to town and continued preaching, without further action in relation to his settlement until September 1838, when he was ordained pastor; he continued his labors over 6 years with satisfaction, 67 being added to the membership of the church; his dismissal dates May 1844.

In earlier days when the old meeting house was erected on the hill, though large and remote, it was better filled than most churches in this region at the present time; but at length it was clearly shown that a new locality was desired and the house was taken down and removed to the plain near the school house in the middle district: this was about the year 1828. The town assisted in defraying the expense, in consideration of occupying it for town meetings, and for a few years it was the only place of worship on the sabbath.

Some years previous to the removal from the hill, meetings were held at the village, and about the time Mr. Smith came, they were held  $\frac{1}{2}$  the time at that place in the Court House, and the other  $\frac{1}{2}$  at the meeting house, but near the close of his labors—in 1843—the Methodists took advantage of an arrangement to temporarily hold services at the old meeting-house during the summer months, tak-

ing possession of the court house, and declined yielding thereafter its occupancy any part of the time; thus it became necessary for the Congregationalists to either contest titles, or abandon the village altogether, or build a new church, and the latter course was adopted.

The next year 1844, a



CONGREGATIONALIST CHURCH.

good and commodious house was erected at an expense of only \$1200, principally through the efforts of Mr. David E. Dennison.

After the new church was com-

pleted the Rev. Thomas Hall was employed to preach, and in the course of the ensuing year settled as pastor, accepting the call and made arrangements for his installation, but poor health prevented him from filling the desk more than 2 or 3 years. From that time to the summer of 1848 the Methodists occupied the church.

From Aug. 1848 Rev. Joseph Marsh was pastor for 2 years, after which Mr. Hall returned and preached for nearly a year.

After this we find the Methodists again holding meetings in the church, and they continued until March 1858.

While the Congregationalists were in this, as we may say, partially dormant state, the members residing in the south part of the town, wanting to labor with people of the same sect, as themselves, withdrew and attended church at Lancaster, N. H., and in March 1856, most of the members residing in that locality, together with the two deacons, virtually seceded from the Guildhall church and united themselves with the church at Lancaster, N. H.

This secession was not accomplished by rebellion, but peaceably and in accordance with their own interests and good senses. The people thus going from the church and at that particular time, almost struck a fatal blow to the society, and it was years before it recovered.

This state of affairs rather had a tendency to arouse the members thus remaining, and in the early part of 1857 they made a new effort to secure Congregational preaching. They raised a subscription—the largest for many years—and endeavored to find a good man to settle, but were unsuccessful. For a few weeks at a time Revs. Mr. Loomis, Jr., Mr. Dustan, Mr. Dye, Mr. Jenkins, Mr. Fellows, Mr. Blauvelt, Mr. Underwood and Mr. Beekworth favored them. Their labors were not in vain, for 12 were added June 27, 1858, and 7 on June 19, 1859.

The Methodists appear again, for in the winter of 1859-60 they held meetings alternately in the church, and it was at this time that Rev. Josiah Morse, M. D., commenced his labors with the society. He was pastor until 1864.

During the years 1862-3 there were no additions to the church, and this has been accounted for, by some, for the reason of the great war of the rebellion which was raging with all its fury during these two years, that the subject of religion did not receive the attention which in other years was devoted to it by those interested in its advancement.

Rev. L. H. Blake was pastor in the years 1864-5; during these two years 12 persons were admitted to membership, and of that number six are now members, the other six have either removed from town or died.

October 1st, 1864 Wm. D. Rosebrook and Chas. Keith were appointed deacons, for the time being.

Rev. James Laird was pastor from December 14, 1865, until April 18, 1870. During this time 21 persons were admitted to the church; of this number 7 are now members, 14 having either removed their connection to other churches, or died. Rev. Mr. Laird was installed as pastor March 16, 1866. Josiah Morse and Chas. Keith elected deacons Aug. 31, 1866. Dr. Morse in place of Wm. D. Rosebrook who declined to serve. Robert Chase was elected deacon May 1, 1868, in place of Josiah Morse, resigned. Deacons Chase and Keith have executed that office from then to the present time. (Jan. 1, 1886.)

In the year 1866 the church and society built a parson-

age at an expense of some \$2,000.

Mr. Theodore P. Pruden, a Theological Student was acting pastor from March 25, 1871, during a part of the year 1871. There were no additions to the church from 1870 to 1876. After Mr. Pruden left, the pulpit was not regularly filled until Nov. 1, 1872, when Rev. J. H. Thyng was engaged as acting pastor for one year. From Nov. 1, 1873 to Aug 20, 1876, the church was without a pastor, but was supplied more or less by different persons among whom were, Rev. Henry Farrar and Rev. Wm. Joslyn, but how long any of them supplied, the record does not state.

Rev. Josiah G. Willis was engaged as pastor August 20, 1876; was ordained Oct. 11, 1876, and closed his labors with this church Aug. 20, 1878. During this time 3 persons were admitted to the church, all of whom are still living, and are now members.

Rev. Levi G. Chase was acting pastor for one year from Nov. 1, 1878. He was invited by the church to be installed as pastor, but was obliged to decline on account of poor health. There were eight persons admitted to the church in 1879, all of whom are now members.

During this year the debt, which had been a burden on the church and society from the year 1866, and which was occasioned by building a parsonage, was liquidated, and the church and society were relieved, having, during the time, paid almost as large a sum for interest as the debt was at the date it was contracted.

Rev. Samuel W. Chapin was acting pastor from June

1, 1880 to June 1, 1881; he was employed for another year but was obliged to give up the work on account of his health being poor. During his ministry 2 persons were admitted to the church, and are still members.

The church was then without a pastor until May 1, 1882, when Rev. F. L. Small was engaged and commenced his labors as acting pastor, and was installed as pastor over the church June 21, 1883, and continued his relation of pastor until May 26, 1885, when he was by a council duly dismissed from further service. During his pastorate 17 persons were admitted to the church, all of whom are still members.

Rev. H. M. McLeod has been acting pastor from June 1885 to the present time (Jan. 1, 1886.)

While Rev. F. L. Small was pastor, a small debt was contracted, in repairing the church, building a barn, and other repairs, in and about the parsonage, which by some, might be regarded as needless; still nothing was expended but what was needed to make the church building a convenient and suitable place for the public worship of God, and the parsonage buildings what the church and society ought to have for the use of whoever may have occasion to occupy them as the pastor for this church and society.



Among very many pleasant things connected with the history of this church, it may not be improper to state that in the year 1882, Mrs. Eliza J. Chase of her own free will, prompted by the goodness of a large and generous heart, saw fit, and made the church a present of a beautiful set of pulpit furniture, at an expense, which if the officers of the church had made, they would have been accused of extravagance, beyond the means of such a church to indulge in. Another giver who should be remembered with grateful thanks is Mrs. Joshua Lamkin of Chicago, Ill., who made the church a present of a large and costly bound Bible for the pulpit.

In conclusion, perhaps it should be said that some things have happened in the history of this church, which it would in a worldly view, have been fortunate, could they have been avoided; but has any one a right to expect that every act of the officers and members of this church should have been perfect? To such an one is respectfully submitted the suggestion: what might have been the influence that would have given character to this town from the year 1799 to the present time, had not this church been founded, sustained and directed as all God loving people believe, by an allwise providence.

From the church records it appears that the whole or aggregate number of members is 375; average yearly additions between 4 and 5; greatest number admitted in one day 41; present number of members 71.

## THE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

As already stated in the beginning of this chapter, if any one differed in belief with the majority of the town, (as the preaching of the Gospel was supported by taxation,) they could be exempt from the payment of such tax, by giving a testimonial to that effect to the town clerk; consequently we find among the town records many such testimonials, and we here give one of them.

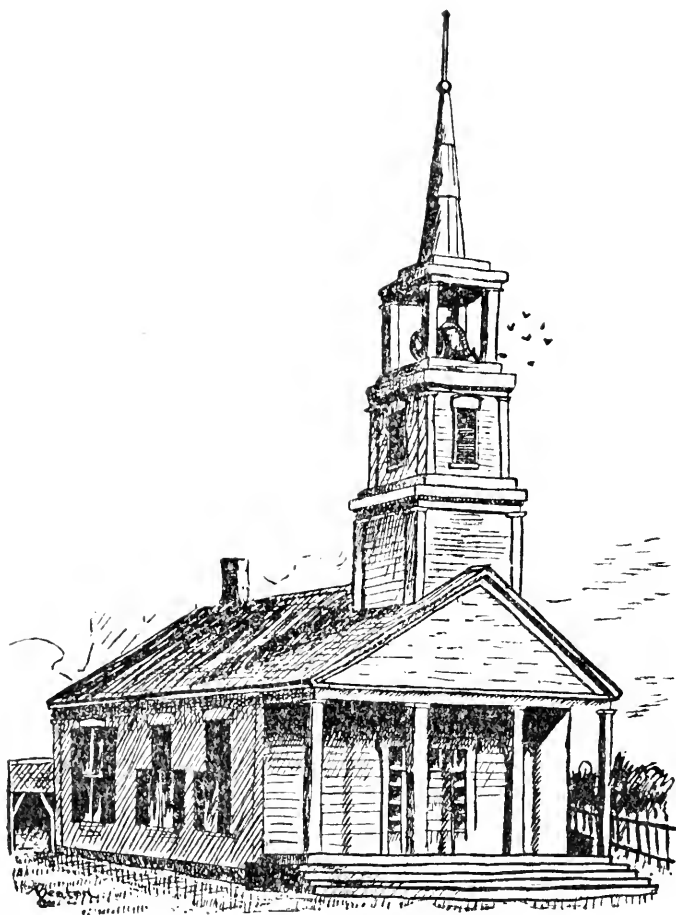
“To all people to whom these presents shall come, Greeting: Know ye, that I, Elijah R. Sabin, a traveling preacher of the sect of Christians known and distinguished by the name of the Methodist Episcopal Church, do hereby certify that Benjamin Cook, Lemuel Cook, John Crawford, Jr., and Caleb Call, all of Guildhall, are of the same sect of the subscriber and that I, the said Elijah R. Sabin, am an ordained minister of the said sect in the town of Guildhall, in the County of Essex and State of Vermont. Elijah R. Sabin.

Guildhall, August 31, 1801.”

After a time, through the influence of a clearer light, and the steady and sure advance of liberal sentiment, this custom of uniting Church and State, was forever abandoned in this town: and the practice of each individual voluntarily subscribing or contributing for the support of the Gospel in accordance with his own particular views was established.

The exact date of the formation of the church is not known, but it was not far from 1801.

This society did not have a church edifice of their own until 1865, when the present building was erected; their



METHODIST CHURCH.



parsonage however, was built as early as 1848 or 1849. It has been altered and improved at various times, and last year (1885) extensive repairs were made.

Here, as in a great many places where a church and society have no building of their own to worship in, and depend upon other places in which to hold their meetings they have many hardships to contend with, and so with this church, but by the peculiar abilities whereby some societies hold together and continue, under seeming impossibilities, they held together and at last came off victorious, and to-day we have in our town a flourishing Methodist society, with a good church building and parsonage, good preaching, and a brightening future.

1-10. Rev. Erastus Pottingill labored at Guilfhall; his charge also included Lunenburg's.

An extensive revival swept over this place in the year 1843 and a Methodist church was organized, or as we should think reorganized, but the only records we learn of date from this time. Guilfhall was then classed with Lunenburg and Bloomfield.

Rev. Leonard Ausden was appointed in 1842 and 1843 to Guilfhall and Lunenburg: he held a protracted meeting in our town with good success, a large number were converted and joined the church; it was through his instrumentalities that the church was reorganized as it was at that time. The following being members of the Quarterly Conference:—STEWARDS: John Dodge, H. N. Shoff, R. C. Lucas. LEADERS: Isaac Cummings, Amos Rockbrooks, E. H. Webb, Christopher Cheney.

MEMBERS. CLASS No. I.— Isaac Cummings, Ophelia Cummings, Henry Cummings, Catherine Cummings, John Dodge, D. P. Grow, Comfort A. Grow, Betsey Nichols, Lucy Smith, Simon Smith, Roxana Long, Andrew Smith, John Smith, H. N. Shoff, Lydia Gould, Roxana Watson, Allen Gould, Louise L. Cheney, John Little, James M. Flanders, Aaron Rowell, Polly Rowell, James Follansby, Ruth Follansby, Sabina Rowell, James Nelson, Joseph Rich, Mary Rich, Linda Rich, I. W. Belkows, Mary Austin, Harriet Haevoel, Mrs. Bemis, Freedom Densmore, Tiezah Densmore, Rosaline Rhodes, Caleb H. Marshall, Laura F. Marshall, Laura F. Marshall 2d, Jenett Marshall, Julia A. Crawford, A. Crawford, Lucy A. Peck, Asahel McFarland, Chas. McFarland, Putney Follansby, Maryette Follansby, Dinah Hummel.

CLASS No. II.— Amos Rosebrooks, Ora Hall, Sarah Hall, Lewis Hall, Lewis H. Mashure, Rachael Mashure, R. L. Boyce, Joanna Boyce, Mariam Boyce, Abigail Boyce, Abia Banfield, Irene Stewart, Guy Lankin, Abigail Lankin, Alphens Nichols, Sarah Elkins, Isaac Elkins, Miles E. Randall, Hannah Randall, Adeline Haskell.

CLASS No. III.— Edward H. Webb, Abba Webb, R. C. Lucas, Anna Lucas, Wm. Hopkins, Mary Hopkins, Oliver Bemis, Diadama Bemis, Julia F. Catler, Wm. E. Howe, Adeline Howe, Eliza Howe.

CLASS No. IV.— Christopher Cheney, Parmelia Cheney, Caleb Call, Roxana Call, Elam Call, Aaron Wheeler, Margaret Wheeler, Thursa Call, David Stuart, Roxana Peabody, Lorinda Peabody.

Rev. Ira Beard was pastor for the years 1844, and 1845. Supplied '46. Rev. Jonathan Gale '47. Rev. James Smith '48 '49. Rev. Adna Newton '50 '51. Rev. L. P. Cushman '52. Supplied '53. Rev. A. McMillan '54. Rev. I. Enright '55. Supplied '55 '57. Rev. C. D. Ingraham '60. Rev. H. Stevens '61 '65. Rev. J. McDonald '66 '67. Rev. M. Bullard '68 '69. Rev. Geo. Lowell '70. Rev. T. Mackie '71 '72. Rev. Mr. Paintin '73. Rev. Mr. Narey '74. Rev. S. F. Cushman '75 '76. Rev. W. C. Robinson '77. No preaching '78. Rev. O. W. Barrows '79 '80 '81. Rev. C. P. Flanders '82 '83 '84. Rev. S. L. Hedges '85 '86.

#### SABBATH SCHOOLS.

As early as 1816 efforts were made for sabbath school instruction. Mrs. Farrar of Lancaster commenced a school in her home, inviting the people of the south part of Guildhall to join, which they mostly did. At the same time Mrs. Wallo who with her husband, Nathaniel Waldo were residing in Guildhall, started a similar school in our village. In 1821 a sabbath school was commenced at the south school house, and continued for quite a number of years. This school was more of a meeting for social, moral and religious improvement, as they had no regular organization or classification of later times. A competent person conducted the meetings, who originated and proposed questions, from whatever part of Scripture might have been under contemplation; these meetings were continued until Rev. James Tisdale became pastor of the Congregational Church, and then a regular organization was effected with Hon. R. W. Freeman as first superintendent;

this was in 1839. This organization held its school in the church, which was then on the plain in the middle district, as long as meetings were continued in this house.

From that time there has been connected with the Congregational church a Sunday school which has been in operation whenever there have been services in the church, and in many instances when there have not. It is a flourishing organization and holds its meetings after the morning services. Dea. Robert Chase is superintendent, which office he has held for a number of years.

There has also been connected the M. E. church a prosperous Sabbath school for many years. And the fact of two good Sunday schools being conducted in our town, gives ample opportunity to all who will, to become well instructed in religious topics. Both schools have good libraries; many rare books may be found there, and the scholars have thereby good advantages to improve their minds.

One circumstance in the history of both of these Sunday schools, as well as the churches at large; while these societies not being able to purchase the fine pipe organs that are in some other churches, both have good reed organs, which are as a general thing, well played. The organ in the Congregational church has been in use for something like twenty five years, and is in good order at the present time; it will be hard to match it with some so called improved organs of today. The Methodists had for years an old pipe organ which as we understand came from Moutpelier; it at last became so terribly out of order that it was sold, and a new organ was purchased to take its place. Today both churches have good Eskey Organs, and their equal would be a credit to any society.



## CHAPTER XII.

Cemeteries in Guildhall—North Burying Ground—Old Graves—1795, the date of the first known Burial—South Burying Ground—Northumberland Burying Ground—Court House Hill Cemetery.

“Our dear old town ! How grand  
The views of mountain land  
Which here we meet !  
We love these verdant hills,  
These vales our fathers tilled,  
These woods the wild birds filled  
With carols sweet.

Our native town ! How dear  
Each purling brook so clear,  
Each dale and steep—  
But there’s a dearer spot  
Than rock, or rill, or cot,  
Which ne’er can be forgot—  
Where loved ones sleep.”

The principal Cemetery in Guildhall is situated about a mile below the village, south side of the river road, and near the bank of the Connecticut River. There is another, more pleasantly located in the south part of the town, nearly opposite the school house in school district No. 1.

On referring to the town records, we find that the selectmen of the town, laid out a Burying Ground, in the year 1797. This was the North Burying Ground.

Their report, which may be interesting to some, is given on the next page.

“Laid out by us the subscribers in Guildhall the following Plot, for a Burying Ground in said Town. Containing about one acre, and described as follows (viz) Beginning at a stake on the North east line of the River Division of School Lands. Lot No. 52 on the southerly side of the River Road, thence S : 45 : E : 13 Rods to the Bank of the River to a Stake on sd Line, thence down the said River about fourteen Rods to a Stake on sd Bank, thence N.45°: W. thirteen rods, to a Stake on the South-erly side of said Road, thence on Said Road to the Bounds first mentioned.

Guildhall, November 14th. 1797.

|                 |              |
|-----------------|--------------|
| Benoni Cutler,  | } Selectmen. |
| Simon How,      |              |
| Timothy Holmes. |              |

Surveyed by Sam'l. R. Hall, Surveyor.”

It therefore appears that the first Cemetery was laid out in 1797, yet we find that there had been burials there before that date, for in this yard there is an old stone bearing date of 1795.

The exact date of the first death, or burial in town, is not known, but there are some old graves in both yards.

In July 1885 the writer went to the burying grounds referred to in this connection, and it was a noticeable fact how badly the grave stones were either sunken into the ground, broken in pieces, or fallen to, and lying flat on the ground, or partially buried under debris which has accumulated for years, and which looks as if it seldom, if ever were cleared away, especially in the north burying ground. Is it right, men of Guildhall? You may not know it; you may never have given it a thought, and perhaps you do not care to. Many old graves have possibly

an old slate-stone slab at the head, and it may look and seem to be worthless, but it *marks the spot where lies an old settler of Guilfdhall, and should be cared for.* If you do not care to preserve them as historical facts, do show some interest in the resting places of those who laid the foundation of the town.

Among the old graves in the north Burying Ground are:  
 Dea. Joseph Berry, March 22, 1813.

"Mrs. Roxana Burge, consort of Rev. Caleb Burge, who died March 17, 1811."

Hubbard W., son of Rev. Caleb Burge, Feb 28, 1811.  
 Samuel, son of Rev. Caleb Burge, 1813.

Mrs. Ruth Hinman, March 8, 1813; and we find on the slate these words:

.....  
 "God my Redeemer lives  
 And often from the Skies  
 Looks down and watches all my dust,  
 Till He shall bid it rise."  
 .....

Harriet, daughter of Hon. Daniel Dana Esq., and Mrs. Dolly his wife, April 12, 1802."

"Miss Dolly Dana, daughter of Hon. Daniel Dana Esq., and Mrs. Dolly Dana his wife, Feb. 20, 1808;" and here we find:

.....  
 "'Tis not by works of righteousness,  
 Which our own hands have done,  
 But we are sav'd by sov'reign grace,  
 Abounding thro' the Son,  
 Raised from the dead, we live anew!  
 And justified by grace,  
 We shall appear in glory too,  
 And see our Father's face."  
 .....

"Nancy Carlisle daughter of Thomas Carlisle et ux.  
September 20, 1811," and this verse appears:

.....  
: "When the Archangel's trump shall call, :  
: And souls to bodies join, :  
: What crowds will wish their lives on Earth :  
: Had been as short as mine." :  
.....

David Lindsey, Aug. 7, 1801.

Simcon Lindsey, Jr., April 21, 1810.

Edward How, Dec. 13, 1810.

Hains How, Dec. 24, 1810.

Ira How, Dec. 31, 1810.

The oldest stone we could find was a small double slate-stone marking the resting places of Alden and Melinda How, children of Sammel How and Mrs. Mercy, his wife; Alden died Oct. 9, 1795, and Melinda died Jan. 9, 1798.

Benoni Cutler, 1806.

Daniel Bundy, Aug. 8, 1810.

There are other old graves here, but we hardly feel like publishing more.

#### SOUTH BURYING GROUND.

In this yard we find some old graves, but none as old as some we have mentioned above.

Betsey Cushman, 1813.

Mary Hopkinson, 1813.

Joshua Hopkinson, 1816.

Francis Hopkinson, 1817.

John Whipple, 1819.

General Seth Cushman's grave is here and dates Mar. 18, 1845.

## THE NORTHUMBERLAND BURYING GROUND.

As we thought it might be interesting to some to know how the Grave Yards in Guildhall compare with the one in Northumberland, N. H., as to dates, the writer made a visit to this Cemetery, which is situated about two miles north of Northumberland village, and is pleasantly located, and quite well cared for, much more so than either of the Cemeteries previously alluded to.

The oldest grave we found was that of Mrs. Lois Smith, March 26, 1795.

Capt. Jeremiah Eames' grave stone bears date of April 22, 1817, and on it are these words:

.....  
: "He was one of the first settlers of this town." :  
.....

## THE COURT HOUSE HILL CEMETERY.

There is a small private Cemetery in Guildhall village, located on the top of Court House hill. This is comparatively a new one, and it is by far the best one in town.

## CHAPTER XIII.

War Chapter—The settlement of Upper Coos—Indian Path from Canada to Maine—How the news was received of the strike for Independence—Vital times for the new settlements at Upper Coos—Tories—The Ports—Men who enlisted in 1776—Some acts of violence—War of 1812---At the Battle of Plattsburg---Feeling among citizens in relation to this War---The Great Period of Conflict---War of the Rebellion---List of Soldiers from Guildhall.



Up to the year 1760 it was not only considered, but in fact it was a perilous act to attempt settling in the Upper Coos,\* and consequently it was not done, on ac-

count of the St. Francis tribe of Indians, who had again obtained control of this entire section, (although they had the winter before been partially swept out by Maj. Rogers' men, but by no means subdued,) and the French Government in Canada. A new settlement was almost sure to be destroyed, and the inhabitants taken prisoners or killed on the spot. When they remembered the fall of Deerfield, Mass., and other similar circumstances, their desires to settle new territory were put somewhat in the background and the safety of themselves and families taken strongly into consideration; but when no longer the French and

\*In writing the first part of this chapter we shall not attempt to confine our remarks to Guildhall alone, it would be needless. Guildhall, and the adjoining towns on the river together with Stratford and E. New-  
wick were then called Upper Coos. The history of these towns, as regards this subject is so intimately connected, that to single out any one and write of its holding the enemy at bay at this place would be devoid of good judgement.

Indians in Canada were feared, settlements soon started.

The Indians about here were not especially hostile if they were not disturbed; yet in some towns there were acts of violence committed. The settlers were friendly to the Indians, which caused the Indians in this region to be friendly in return, and their influence upon the Canadian Indians did much to heal up the deep wound which they received in 1759.

The minds of the new colonists, who were now settling the lands of the Upper Coos, were greatly relieved when they felt that no longer the Canadians were to be feared, for now all was one Government; not out of fear, however, for braver men and more courageous women never settled new territories than those who were at that time in these various towns. They were tired of war and willing to be peaceable citizens if they could maintain their rights.

For a few years everything was peaceful enough, although at times the Indians who had a path from Lake Memphremagog in Canada to the Penobscot River in Maine\* troubled them, but they came more to stop over night and to "drink," than any other way.

"Hello there!" was heard as Mr. Stockwell who had just come from his home in the south settlement, (for such was the name by which the families at South Guildhall and Lancaster were known,) came riding up to Mr. Eames' yard in Northumberland. "What's the news, old fellow, and how are all the folks down at your place?"

"Well, Jerry," said Mr. Stockwell to Mr. Eames, "we're in a stew again: what do you think? I have just

\*The Indian path from Maine to Canada passed through the towns of Northumberland, Maidstone, Stratford and Brunswick. After leaving Lake Memphremagog, they would take the Clyde River which would lead them to Island Pond, then across to the Nulhegan River, following it to the Connecticut, thence to the Upper Amonoosuc, and up this river to some point in the present town of Milan, N. H., where they crossed to the Androscoggin, and followed that river into Maine. It had been a common thoroughfare for two or three tribes of Indians, who respectively occupied these portions of country, for a great many years; nor was it abandoned until these Indian tribes had removed to other regions. Parties of Indians were almost every week passing either one way or the other, and as the settlements here were the only ones they met, it was very natural for them to call.

heard by my man who has come from Newbury last night, that there's been fightin' at Lexington."

"What, are the boys down there agoin' to carry out their threat and fight for liberty?"

"I s'pose so, and so I jest got on my horse and came right up to tell you fellers here, for ye are in dangerous ground here, you know, for them Indians who go up the Ame,\* and as they'll fight us if they get a chance, ye had better keep an eye out for em."

"Well, Emmons, you surprise me, but we won't back down now: I have come here to stay a while, and if you fellers down south will stick by us, we'll fight em if they come here."

"You may know that we will: I dare say that every man down there will join us."

"Well, you'd better go right back and have every man who can, come up here tomorrow for we must build a fort: have em come and we'll build it down on the medder."

Thus was the information given and received of the strike for Independence.

Now came a vital time to this new settlement, as a long and bloody war was to ensue. This was the frontier, and they must take immediate steps toward their own protection. The Canadians and Indians, (who were of course in league with the British to put down the Revolution,) were not the worst enemies to be feared, for they had in their very midst, and in fact some of their nearest neighbors were Tories, and while seemingly, they were sympathetic with the settlers, they were in reality the worst type of humanity, and people whom it would hardly seem would be blessed enough to ever have the form of a human being. They betrayed the settlers, and in every way they could worked in an under handed manner to break

\*Upper Anomousuc River



down an honest government which was then in its infancy.

During this period the Indians received large sums of money, as bounty for each captive alive, or scalp that was taken by them. As the settlers could get no assistance from the government, they were obliged to rely entirely upon their own resources for self-protection, and defence against their various enemies. The inhabitants at Upper Coos united for that purpose, and chose a committee of safety. They built four forts: two in Northumberland, one of which was at the mouth of the Upper Amonoosuc River, the other on the Eames farm; one in Stratford, in the north part of the town; and the fourth, (which was to be used in case of necessity as their last resort,) was in Guildhall, and to which we have previously alluded in this book as Col. Bailey's Block House.

The Stratford fort was used almost altogether as an outpost. The young and able-bodied men were sent as scouts to the woods to prevent surprise from the enemy, and those who were not able to go to the woods were left in charge of the lower forts.

Upon one of the high hills in Stratford they would put large piles of wood, which when it was necessary were set on fire and thus the alarm would be given that the enemy was coming; the women and children would flee to the lower forts, while the men would meet at the Amonoosuc fort.

Col. Warl Bailey was in command of the Rangers, or young men, and Capt. Jeremiah Eames was in charge of the forts.

The only list of men who were banded together, which we have been able to procure, is the one we have already given in a previous chapter; we here give their names but there were many more who joined them.

|                   |                |                  |
|-------------------|----------------|------------------|
| THOMAS BLODGETT   | NATHAN CASWELL | DAVID LARNED     |
| JAMES CURTISS     | SAM'L NASH     | SAM'L PAGE       |
| ARCHIPPA BLODGETT | ABELIAH LARNED | ABNER OSGOOD     |
| EMMONS STOCKWELL  | MOSES QUMBY    | D'ES SAWYER      |
| JOSIAH BLODGETT   | WARD BAILEY    | ABEL LARNED      |
| JOSEPH BARLOW     | JAS. BLAKE     | JOHN FRICKY      |
| ELIEZER ROSEBROOK | ABNER BARLOW   | JEREM. LAMES JR. |

Guildhall was to the south of three forts, consequently very little fighting was done within its limits; but in those days there were no town limits, people living in South Guildhall were almost considered near neighbors to Stratford people.

Most acts of violence happened in the towns of Maudstone and Brunswick, and in this connection, we will give some of the interesting incidents, worthy of remembrance.

One of the forts in Northumberland was near the house of Mr. Caleb Marshall; his young wife, after seeing their house and all their household goods burned to the ground, mounted a horse with a child about two years old, and an infant of three weeks, and went without attendants to her relatives in Hampstead N. H., over 160 miles, through the howling wilderness, with hardly a settlement from one day's end to another. The babe afterwards became the very hospitable wife of Hon. Moody Rich formerly of Maudstone.

\*We are indebted for most of the Maudstone facts to Hon. Moody Rich's sketch of the town of Maudstone in Mrs. Henryway's Gazetteer, and to the Rev. Mr. May's paper on the town.

Col. Ward Bailey's activity in supporting the cause of liberty rendered him particularly obnoxious to the British, and a large sum was offered for him dead or alive, as well as for many others we might mention. A party of savages came from Canada for the express purpose of capturing Col. Bailey, Mr. Hugh and one or two others. They went to the house of Thomas Wooster and took Mr. Wooster, his hired man John Smith, and Jas. Luther, who was visiting his betrothed. They then proceeded for Col. Bailey but found the Rangers prepared to meet them. They then took what persons they had secured to Canada. The Rangers followed them up and tried in every way to rescue their friends, but they were unsuccessful as the Indian force was very strong. The sufferings of the party which was that night taken captive were intense, particularly from hunger. It is related that when the Indians stopped to eat their meals, Mr. Luther would sit down and watch them; they would now and then throw him a bit, saying, "You all one dog, take that."

A Mr. Chapin, who lived in the north part of Maidstone, while at work chopping wood near his house was most cruelly murdered by Indians who came upon him by surprise. His faithful wife, after seeing his head split in two, one half falling upon either side, took her 3 children and fled to the woods. One of the children was a young babe, which she put to the breast, expecting every moment it would cry and disclose her place of concealment. She heard the savages go to the house and imitate her husband's voice, saying—"Come Molly, come back, Molly,

the Indian "gone to come." She did not come, and they went away. Who can for one instant imagine the sufferings of that brave wife and mother at that time. Her nearest neighbors lived on the opposite side of the river, and she crossed by wading through, carrying one child, then returning for another until all were safely over.

John French was secreted in a hay stack for weeks at a time, his wife carrying food to him at night; there was a large sum offered for him and the Indians were determined to get him dead or alive, but did not succeed.

A Mr. Caldwell was driving a pair of oxen, attached to a load of hay, and coming to a steep hill his oxen refused to draw the load up. Mr. C. became extremely wrath, and unhitching the oxen, set fire to the hay. It made a great blaze and as a result was supposed by the settlers to be an alarm that Indians were coming, which caused much excitement, all the men rushing to defend themselves. As there were no Indians to be found, Mr. C. was tried for raising a false alarm, found guilty, and severely punished.

Major Whitcomb\* the great trapper and hunter of this section, was one of the most daring and courageous men that ever lived in the country. He was very friendly with the Indians. Once he found an Indian in the winter time alone and starving, his gun being broken; Whitcomb took him to his camp, fed him and gave him a new gun. The Indian remained with him several weeks, and when he went away Whitcomb gave him food enough to last him until he could reach home.

\*Mrs. Remondette's letter, Vol. I, page 170.

In the old French war Maj. Whitcomb served under Putnam. He was also a scout at Ticonderoga; the commander of the fort received a circular from Gen. Washington saying he wished to retaliate upon the British officers for the massacres of women and children by the British Indians. He offered any American soldier who would go into Canada and shoot a British General, a Major's commission. Whitcomb and two others volunteered; one deserted before reaching the line. When Whitcomb and his companion got into Canada they ascertained that a brigade of British, and some Indians were moving toward the line; and the night before they arrived, Whitcomb's associate also deserted, going to the British and informing them of Whitcomb's plans, which greatly annoyed and vexed him, but he did not give up. He went nearer the British camp and selected the place for his ambuscade where a small river made a turn and came near the road. His position was at the root of a large upturned pine tree, and thick alders were all around for many rods, and his selection was a good one. It was afternoon before the enemy came in sight and passed slowly along. Several officers passed, but none of the grade he was looking for; finally a mounted officer richly dressed etc., together with several Staff Officers came along; it was Gen. Gordon: Whitcomb took aim and fired! The officer fell back dead. The Indians dashed into the woods after him, and supposing he would run back, did not look for him as he was hid under the tree. As soon as they had passed he crawled along side of the tree into the ravine, and down under the bridge into the river and up it in the water under the thick alders. He had proceeded but about a half mile when he heard blood hounds boo on his track, but he baffled them.

He pushed forth with all his energies until he reached Royalton, Vt., where he found friends. While escaping, his sufferings were intense, his shoes were entirely worn out and he had nothing to eat for five days.

A thousand crowns were offered for his head, and two thousand crowns for him delivered alive at any British post; and the Indians hunted for him along the lake, and even to the walls of Ticonderoga.

Whitecomb shortly after joined the Rangers at Upper Coos thinking he would not be discovered or known in this part of the State, but unfortunately one day he was suddenly seized from behind, and hurriedly carried into Canada down the St. Francis River. The last night before reaching the British post they camped upon an island. Whitecomb's feet and hands were tied to a stake, and to make sure, two Indians were bound to him: escape seemed impossible. About two o'clock he was aroused by gentle taps upon the lips. His bonds were cut. He was silently directed to arise and follow, which he did to the river. The Indian whom he had formerly aided when starving, turned to him and handed him his gun, powder horn, ball-pouch, knife and a bag of parched corn, reminding Whitecomb of his former kindness to him, said "I now pay you: go, go." Whitecomb slipped into a canoe and pushed out into the river. The Indian gave him a farewell salute, and returned to the camp. Whitecomb pushed back and cut a hole in the remaining canoes, then immediately crossed to the opposite shore, cut a hole in his canoe, pushed it off into the stream and ran for his

life. About 4 o'clock he heard the Indians' distant whoop of alarm, soon followed the whoop of disappointment when they found their canoes gone. Whitcomb pushed on day and night, not stopping until he had reached the home of his childhood in Mass., where he remained during the war. In due time he received his Major's commission, and in his old age received a Major's pension. His good friend, the Indian, he never again heard of after their parting on the island.

It should be remembered that the first settlers came to Guildhall April 19, 1764 and that it was eleven years from that date to the breaking out of the war of the Revolution; the battle of Lexington occurring on the 19th of April 1775, and it is no wonder that the early settlers lived in fear during this eventful period, being left (as the necessity of the case compelled the Revolutionary Government to leave them,) to take care of themselves as best they could. It was not possible or for the interests of the Revolutionists to station a force so far from the centers of importance to them in the struggle for Independence, to protect a few settlers so far away and it would indeed have been strange if these settlers should not have received the news that the war was over and that the times of peril and danger were passed, with joy, and that they could now go on in doing their part in making Upper Coos what it is at the present time, one of the most pleasant and prosperous communities anywhere to be found in northern New England.

We echo the sayings of Mr. Rich, in his sketch of Maidstone, when he said: "It well becomes those who sit securely by their hearthstones with their children gathered about them, fearing no stealthy attack from an insidious foe, to thankfully acknowledge that their lines have fallen in pleasant places; and also to cherish with tenderest feelings of veneration and respect, the memory of ancestors, who, amidst perils and privations, prepared the way for all they now enjoy."

#### WAR OF 1812.

In 1790 the population of Guildhall was about 150; in 1791 it was 158; in 1810 it was 544, being the largest number at any time till the year 1860. This large gain from 1790 to 1810 shows a prosperous condition for the future improvement and advancement of all the interests of the town, and everything seemed to work for the welfare and general good of the town. It is not to be considered very strange, to every candid, fair and impartial mind, that the leading desire of the inhabitants was to keep on in the way they had been doing after the close of the war of the Revolution, and the fact is that the news of the declaration of war by Congress was received with as great a degree of sadness by a very large majority of the inhabitants, as the news of peace had caused them joy only a few years before. This may be accounted for from the fact that being so far away from those who



were immediately and preeminently in the policy of the Government, in its resistance to the assumption and aggressive acts of the British Government, the peculiar sensitive excitement which begets a fighting spirit was not brought into action, be the cause what it may have been. The war policy of the Government was not popular with the majority, and those who were in favor of sustaining the war were evidently willing to do it with their mouths only, doubtless claiming that that was doing all that ought to be expected of them, as very few enlisted and went into the service. It has been claimed that the town was fairly represented at the battle of Plattsburg; if so, the records are not correct, as no list of names of those who enlisted in the war of 1812 from Guilford is to be found among the records of the town, and nothing in relation to volunteers going from the town to resist the invasion by the British army which was defeated at the battle of Plattsburg. It is a fact however, that Gen. Seth Cushman, who had received a military education, entered the army and was a Pay Master General. Others have drawn pensions on account of service in the war of 1812, but the last one, Mr. David Kent died Sept. 1st. 1881.

It is to be hoped that the bitter feelings and hatred which were generated by the war of 1812 may never be witnessed in this community again, and to show that this is no fancy sketch, a friend who is well informed as to the feeling which existed at that time, has kindly furnished us the following sketch.

Guildhall, in 1812, was a prosperous community and like nearly all New England towns was opposed to Mr. Madison's administration and his war policy; they believed war unnecessary and the sympathy of the leading men was on the side of the British. Beef, cattle and supplies for their army in Canada were gathered here and taken to Canada regardless of the Proclamation of the President against it. To prevent this in some measure, the Government placed an extra force of Customs officers all along the frontier. Party spirit ran high and bitterness sprang up between neighbors who had formerly been friends.

An unhappy affair took place at Canaan. Lieut. Dennett was a special Customs officer; Samuel Beach was a well to do farmer at Canaan; he owned land just over the line in Canada, and carried on farming there as he did in Canaan; he would take oxen over for the pretended purpose of working them, but always soon sold them, when he would take over another pair. This thing went on for some time when he was remonstrated with by the Customs officers who claimed that Beach's course was contrary to law and against the Government. Beach persisted in his course, and one day while attempting to drive a pair of oxen over the line he was shot and killed by Lieut. Dennett. Great excitement ran all through the county. Dennett was arrested on charge of murder and confined in Guildhall jail. Beach's friends claiming that his being killed was a cruel, cowardly act, that he could have been arrested by the Customs officers at any time had they

seen fit to do so. Judge Dana was jailor; he had sympathy for Dennett, and used to let him out for exercise and to do some chores about the house; Dennett promising that he would not run away. But after a while Dennett, thinking so much of wife and child at Canaan, ventured to escape. He took to the woods and made his way to Canaan. After a short stay he took some provisions and went through the woods to Averil pond where he built a camp, and busied himself making baskets.

His whereabouts were soon found out; a force of 10 or 12 of his enemies surprised him by shooting him through the hips while he was standing on a log chopping; he was then taken to Canaan, and placed in a two horse wagon, on the bare boards, and hurried back to Guildhall, a distance of nearly 40 miles over very rough roads, where he died in great agony that night in jail.

No one of the party engaged in the shooting and capture of Lieut. Dennett was ever prosecuted, it being claimed by them and their friends that they were acting under authority of law and under the directions of a sheriff; on the other side it was asserted with great bitterness that 10 or 12 men well armed were not obliged to shoot and mortally wound one man in order to capture him, and that the whole gang was a cowardly set of traitors, ready at all times to give aid to the enemy, and oppose the Government in the prosecution of the war.

## WAR OF THE REBELLION, 1861—'65.

It was very different in Guildhall, when the South saw fit to secede in 1861 from what it was at the commencement of the War of 1812, and while it is not necessary to rehearse the causes which led to the war, or speculate about what could have been done to avoid it; one thing is certain that the inhabitants of Guildhall were unanimous in supporting the Government in its attempt to put down the Rebellion. Party spirit was set aside and everyone was a Union man, and this fact is conclusively shown from the fact that at the election in September 1862 every vote was cast for Gov. Holbrook, the War, or Union candidate for Governor, and there was no difference of opinion relating to the duty of every one to sustain the Government at any time during the continuance of the war, although some were not remarkably well pleased when the Emancipation Proclamation was issued, having never had any great amount of love for the abolitionists, and regarding the Proclamation as an interference with State Rights which was not intended at the commencement of the war and ought not to have been resorted to, even under the great necessity in which the Government was placed. But at no time was there any opposition to the Government shown, and all calls for men were promptly filled. The officers of the town at all times showed an earnest zeal in the discharge of their duty in keeping the quota of the town full, so that a draft should not

be resorted to; that was fully appreciated by those likely to a draft, and not only those, but the whole voting population of the town, who were ready at all times to vote any reasonable sum to encourage enlistments, and the list of names which follows is a remarkable showing for a town of only 552 inhabitants in 1869.

The first man who went to the war from Guildhall, was Joseph Benway, who enlisted in April 1861, at Lancaster, N. H., in the 1st. N. H. Regt., and served during the war, until 1865. If there could be any such place as a "Post of Honor" among the brave men who served the town of Guildhall, and their Country in its great peril, it would seem that he is fairly entitled to it.



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# LIST OF GUILDHALL'S SOLDIERS IN THE WAR OF THE REBELLION.

| NAMES.               | AGE. | REG.      | CO.  | ENLISTED.      | MUSTERED.    | RANK.    | REMARKS.                                                       |
|----------------------|------|-----------|------|----------------|--------------|----------|----------------------------------------------------------------|
| Bailey, Abner        | 43   | 3d.       | Vt.  | D Aug. 16 '62. | Sep. 30 '62. | Private. | Mustered out June 19 '65.                                      |
| Ball, Wilbur F.      | 40   | "         | "    | "              | "            | "        | Discharged Aug. 19 '63.                                        |
| Bartlett, Charles W. | 18   | 8th.      | "    | K Jan. 18 '62. | Feb. 18 '62. | "        | Died Nov. 29 '62.                                              |
| Bates, George D.     | 19   | "         | "    | "              | "            | "        | Died Nov. 9 '62.                                               |
| Barrett, C. G.       | 26   | 12th.     | "    | H Aug. 15 '62. | Oct. 4 '62.  | "        | Mustered out July 14 '63.                                      |
| Beaton, John O.      | 20   | Cav.      | D    | Oct. 4 '61.    | Nov. 19 '61. | "        | Died Nov. 11 '62.                                              |
| Bemis, Joseph T.     | 25   | "         | "    | Aug. 26 '62.   | Sep. 26 '62. | "        | Wounded June 30, 1 '64.                                        |
| Benway, Joseph       |      | 1st N. H. |      | April 1861.    |              | "        | Mustered out July 1865.                                        |
| Bonett, Reuben D.    | 23   | 2 Vt.     | Bat. | Aug. 27 '64.   | same day.    | "        | " " " 2, 1865.                                                 |
| Buzzell, John W.     | 27   | 15 "      | G.   | Sep. 7 '62.    | Oct. 22 '62. | "        | " " " Aug. 10, '63.                                            |
| Chase, Silas A.      | 37   | 3d.       | "    | I. June 1 '61. | July 16 '61. | "        | Discharged Oct. 13, 1861.                                      |
| Chase, Joseph        |      | 17 N. H.  |      |                |              | 2 Lieut. | { Also Qu't'r. Master. Searg.<br>{ 62 Mass 10 days volunteers. |
| Cook, John           | 44   | 15 Vt.    | G    | Sep. 7 '62     | Oct. 22 '62. | Private  | Mustered out Aug. 10 1863.                                     |
| Cutler, James M.     | 25   | 3d "      | "    | I June 1 '61.  | July 16 '61. | "        | Deserted April 10 1863.                                        |
| Drew, William        | 21   | 10 "      | "    | A July 30 '62. | Oct. 17 '62. | "        | Mustered out June 29 '65.                                      |
| Ford, George A.      | 26   | 3d "      | "    | I Nov. 7 '61.  | Nov. 20 '61. | Corpl't. | Mustered out May 23, 1865.                                     |

| NAMES.                | AGE. | REG. | CO.     | ENLISTED.      | MUSTERED.    | RANK.    | REMARKS.                                               |
|-----------------------|------|------|---------|----------------|--------------|----------|--------------------------------------------------------|
| Fowler, Joseph        | 27   | 3d   | Vt. I   | Jan. 1 '64.    | Jan. 2 '64.  | Private. | Deserted July 22 '64.                                  |
| Gage, George E.       | 26   | "    | "       | I July 2 '61.  | July 16 '61. | "        | Mustered out July 27, '64.                             |
| Gage, Geo. W.         | 30   | "    | "       | D Aug. 26 '62. | Sep. 31 '62. | "        | Mustered out June 19 '65.                              |
| Grant's, Timothy      |      |      |         | July 1861.     | Aug. 1 '61.  |          | Died at Washington Jan. 31 '62.                        |
| Grannis, Edward       | 24   | 15   | "       | G Sep. 17 '62. | Oct. 22 '62. | "        | Mustered out Aug. 10, 1863.                            |
| Harrison, Wm. W.      | 20   | 3    | "       | I June 1 '61.  | July 16 '61. | "        | Deserted July 22. '61.                                 |
| Haynes, Benjamin W.   | 28   | "    | "       | " May 15 '61.  |              | "        | " Aug. 27 '62.                                         |
| Hartsborn, John F.    | 20   | 9    | "       | G Aug. 27 '64. | same day     | "        | Mustered out June 13 '65.                              |
| Hendrick, Orrin Scott | 41   | 3    | Vt Cav. | D Sep. 27 '61. | Nov. 19 '61  | "        | " " Nov. 18 '64.                                       |
| Hicks, Benjamin F.    | 41   | 3    | Vt      | " Aug. 28 '62. | Sep. 30 '62. | "        | " " July 8 '65.                                        |
| Hutchins, Robt. H.    | 26   | 11   | "       | L July 1 '63.  | July 1 '63,  | "        | Died Feb. 23, '64.                                     |
| Joy, C. W.            | 39   | 15   | "       | G Sep. 17 '62. | Oct. 22 '62. | "        | Mustered out Aug. 10 '63.                              |
| Long, James           |      |      | Navy    |                |              |          | (Engineer on Gunboat Pow-<br>{ battan; is now in Navy. |
| Manogue, Thomas       | 22   | 17   | Vt. G   | Mch. 7 '65.    | same day     | "        | Mustered out July 14, '65.                             |
| Mearns, Aspell C.     | 20   | Cav. | D       | Sep. 23 '61.   | Nov. 19 '61. | Corpl.   | ( Killed at Winchester. May<br>{ 25th. '62.            |





CHAPTER XIV.  
A BRIEF SKETCH OF  
ESSEX COUNTY, VERMONT.

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Essex County—County organized in the year 1800—Dimensions—Towns—First Term of Court—Land given to the County by Hon. Eben W. Judd—Jails—Court Houses—List of County Officers—Probate Court—Attorneys admitted to the Bar—Population of the County by towns—Principal Vegetable Products—Live Stock and its Productions—Grand List.



Previous to the year 1764 the lands now in the area of Essex County were supposed to be a part of the Province of New Hampshire, and the towns were called New Hampshire Grants. Many towns had been by Benning Wentworth, Governor of New Hampshire, granted charters.

New York, however, counted it among its possessions, in the year above named, and in 1770 that State included this territory in their Gloucester County.

The people of Vermont declared themselves independent in the year 1777, and two years from that time divided the State into two Counties; Essex was then within the limits of Cumberland County. In 1781 this County was divided into 3 Counties, Orange among them, and Essex was in that County. In 1796 Caledonia County was incorporated and that County included all the north-eastern part of the State, thereby including Essex.

However, in the year 1800 Essex County was organized,

and at the October session of the Legislature of that year the County Officers were appointed.

The County is about 45 miles long and 23 wide. It lies between Lat.  $44^{\circ} 20'$  and  $45^{\circ}$ , and Lon.  $4^{\circ} 51'$  and  $5^{\circ} 28'$  east from Washington.

Guildhall was soon made its shire and thus far it has remained unchanged, although there have been repeated attempts to accomplish this object, but as yet the people of the County are satisfied that all in all Guildhall is the point where the people of the whole County are most conveniently accommodated, and it is the best place for the shire town.

The towns of the County are: Averill, Bloomfield, Brighton, Brunswick, Canaan, Concord, East Haven, Ferdinand, Granby, Guildhall, Lemington, Lewis, Lunenburg, Maidstone, Norton, Victory and three gores: Avery's, Warner's and Warren's.

The first settlement of the County was made in Guildhall, of which we have previously given an account.

The first term of Court was holden at Lunenburg on the 3d. Wednesday of December, 1800. Daniel Dana of Guildhall was Chief Judge: Samuel Phelps of Lunenburg and Mills De Forest of Lemington, were assistant Judges; Joseph Wait of Brunswick, Sheriff; Haynes French of Maidstone, Clerk. Ambros Grow was admitted to the bar as an attorney, and seven cases were entered for jury trial; the first case was John Hugh and Anna Hugh vs. James Lucas and Nancy Lucas, for slander, and was continued: John Mattocks, att'y for pl'ffs and Elijah

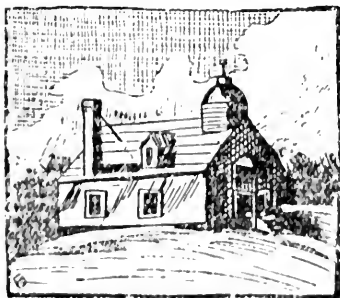
Foote of Guildhall, for def'ts. The second case was continued, and the third, Woodman vs. Hugh, was the first in which a judgement was rendered—and that by default—by which the plaintiff recovered \$46.86 damages, and \$8.63 costs; exception was issued thereon January 1st. 1801.

The names of the first jurors were: James Mills, Gideon Bowker, Moses Quimby, Charles Cutler, Simon Howe, Elijah Spofford, Joseph Parker, John Rich, Jr., Jacob Granger, Wm. Rosebrook, Royal Cutler and John Rich.

The second term of the County Court was holden at Brunswick, commencing on the 3d. Monday of June, 1801. Twenty three new entries appear; there was but one jury trial, which was the first case of the previous term, which had been continued, Hugh vs. Lucas, verdict for plf's for \$14.41 damages, and \$60.70 costs.

The third term was holden at Lunenburg in Dec. 1801.

Meantime Guildhall had been made the shire, and the 4th. term was holden here on the 3d. Monday of June,



OLD COURT HOUSE.

which hill the first Court House was built.

1802.

In Sept. 1797, Eben W. Judd granted to the County land on which to build a Court House, Jail, and for a common.\*

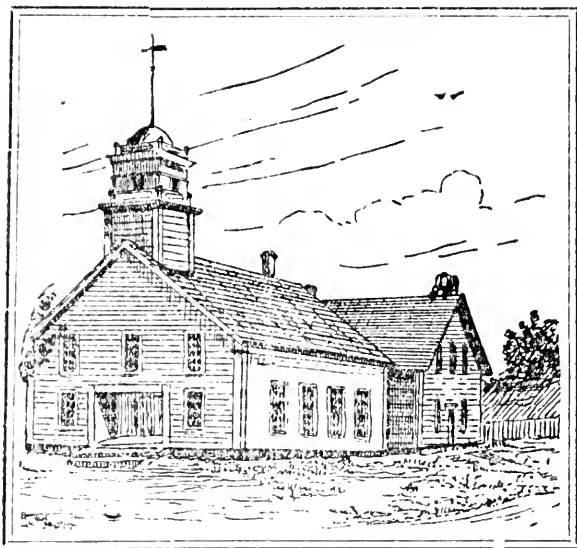
We have not ascertain-

\*This grant included the hill just north of the common, on

ed in what year the first Court House was built, but probably soon after the selection of the shire town.

For quite a number of years the first jail for the County was the block house, erected by Col. Ward Bailey: this was a substantial structure, and we have yet to learn of anyone escaping from it when placed by authority therein. The first jail was built about 1808, and in 1834 a brick jail was constructed, but this was destroyed by fire Dec. 1864 and rebuilt in 1866, which was burned Dec. 14, 1878. The present jail was erected in 1879 and 1880 and enlarged in 1885 so that it is one of the best jails in the State.

In 1831 the Court House was removed to the common in front of the hill upon which it was first erected, and re-built. The present Court House was built in 1850.



There has been but one conviction for manslaughter\*.

\*The case appeared as follows: Two brothers, Stephen and Martin Pellom resided in Guildhall. Stephen went and took a harrow that belonged to Martin and while carrying it away on his back, Martin assaulted him with a club. Stephen thought the treatment a little too harsh, and throwing down the harrow, went in for a regular combat: he also got in possession of a club and struck Martin on the head. The blow was a fatal one, as it hit him on the temple, fracturing his skull, and Martin soon died. This was Apr. 30, 1851, and the authorities arrested Stephen the same day. He was convicted of manslaughter and sentenced to several years hard labor in the State Prison.

## HISTORY OF GUILDHALL. COUNTY OFFICERS.

Chief Judges: Daniel Dana, 1800 '1 '2 '3 '4 '5 '6 '7 '9 '13 '14. Michael Ingham, 1808 '10 '11. David Hopkinson, 1812 '15. Oliver Ingham, '16 '17 '18 '19 '20. Benjamin Hunkins, 1821. Joseph Berry, '22. Wm. Gates, '23 '24. After this the Circuit Judges came into existence.

Assistant Judges: (we give only those who have been residents of Guildhall.) Noah Sabin, 1807 '8. Charles Cutler, '10. Royal Cutler, '19. John Dewey, '26 '27. David Hopkinson, '27 '30. Simon Howe Jr., '31. R. W. Freeman, '33 '34. John Dodge and Samuel Curtis, '35. John S. Nelson, '41 '42. Horace Hubbard, '46 '47. Timothy Fairchild, '49. Oramel Crawford, '50 '51. John P. Dennison, '56 '57. Milton Cutler, '60 '62. T. H. Carby, '64 '65. Richard Small, '69 '70. Wm. H. Hartshorn, '84 '5 '6.

Councillors: Haines French of Maidstone, 1809 '10. Joseph Berry of Guildhall, '19 '20 '1 '2 '3 '4. Richardson Graves, '31 '2 '3 '5. The Council was abolished and the Constitution amended so that a State Senate took its place in 1836. Senators: Wm. Gates, 1836. Wm Heywood, Jr. '37 '8. Geo. E. Holmes, '39. Stephen Howe, '40. Moody Rich, '41. W. Bingham, '42 '43. Geo. Marshall, '44 '45. David Hibbard, Jr. '46 '47. O. Crawford, '48 '49. John Dewey, '50 '51. H. L. Watson, '52 '53. Wm. H. Hartshorn, '54 '55. R. C. Benton, '56 '7. N. W. French, '58. M. S. Chandler, '59. T. G. Beattie, '60 '61. D. H. Beattie, '62 '3. L. H. Tabor, '64 '5. Geo. N. Dale '66 '7.

'8 '9. J. W. Hartshorn '70 '1. J. M. Bartlett '72 '3.  
 Charles E. Benton, '74 '5. D. S. Storrs, '76 '7. C. W.  
 King, '78 '9. Harvey Judevine, '80 '1. Wm. B. Perkins,  
 '82 '3. S. D. Hobson, '84 '5.

County Clerks: Haines French, 1800 to '09. Noah  
 Sabin, '09. Aderson Dana, '13. Timothy Fairchild, '14  
 '5 '22 '3 '4 '5. Wm. Gates, '16 '7 '8 '9 '20 '1 '6 '8 '9  
 '30 '1 '2 '3 '4 '5 '6 '7 '8 '9. Lucius R. Webb, '40. Allen  
 Gould '41 '2 '3. Isaac Cummings '44 '5 '6. John Dodge  
 '48. Wm. H. Hartshorn '47 '9 '50 '1 '2 '3 '4 '5 '6 '7 '8  
 '9 '60 '1 '2. B. W. Dodge '63 '4. Charles E. Benton  
 '65 '6 '7 '8 '9 '70 '1 '2 '3 '4 '5 '6 '7 '8 '9 '80  
 '81 '2 '3 '4 '5 '6.

State Attorneys: Elijah Foote 1801 '2 '13 '14.  
 Levi Barnard '03 '4 '5. Seth Cushman '06 '7 '8 '9 '10 '20  
 '22 '5 '6 '7. Joseph Berry '11 '2 '5 '6 '7 '8 '21 '3 '4.  
 Bailey Dennison '19. David Hibbard Jr. '28 '9 '30 '1  
 '40. James Steele '32 '4 '5. Wm. Heywood Jr. '33 '6  
 '7 '8 '9 '41 '2 '3 '4 '7 '9 '51 '2. William T. Barron '45  
 '6. William Hartshorn '48 '50 '6. R. C. Benton '53 '4  
 '5. George N. Dale '57 '8 '9 '67. Oscar F. Harvey  
 '61 '2 '9 '70. Henry Heywood '63 '4. D. S. Storrs '65 '6 '8  
 Wm. Mason '71 '72. O. B. Boyce '73 '4. George W.  
 Hartshorn '75 '6 '7 '8. A. F. Nichols '79 '80 '1 '2. F.  
 D. Hale '83 '4 '5 '6.

## PROBATE COURT.

"Probate Records of the district of Guildhall in the State of Vermont, begin this 27th. day of August 1791 and Records of the District of Essex begin December 3d. 1798 and continue to" the present time.

## JUDGES OF PROBATE.

Eben W. Judd, 1791 '2 '3 '4 '5 '6 '7 '8.

James Lucas, from Dec. 3d. 1798 '9 to Dec. 1800.

Daniel Dana, Dec 1800 '1 '2 '3 '4 '5 '6 '7 '8 '9 '10 '14 '15.

Joseph Wait, 1811.

Charles Cutler, 1812 '13.

Isaac Cushman, 1816 '17 '18 '19 '20 '1 '2 '3 '4.

Wm. Gates, 1824 '25 '26 '27 to Dec. '28, and '32 '33 '34 '35 '36.

Royal Cutler, from Dec. 1828 '29 '30 '31 '37 '38.

Joseph Gleason, 1839 '40 '41.

Azariah Webb, 1842 '43.

Moody Rich, 1844 '45.

Wm. Heywood, Jr., 1846.

Jonah Brooks, '47 '48 '50 '51.

Isaac Cummings, '49.

Reuben W. Freeman, '52 '53.

Oramel Crawford, '54.

Wm. Chandler, '55 '56 '57 '58.

Jonah Brooks, '59 '60 '61 '62 '63 '64.

John W. Hartshorn, '65 '66.

William H. Hartshorn, '67 '68 '69 '70 '71 '72 '73 '74 '75 '76 '77 '78.

Putney R. Follansby, '79 '80.

D. S. Storrs, '81 '2 '3 '4.

David H. Benthie, '85 '86.



# ATTORNEYS ADMITTED TO THE BAR AT THE ESSEX COUNTY COURT.

|                    |       |                   |      |
|--------------------|-------|-------------------|------|
| Anibrose Grow      | 1800. | Wm. Heywood Jr.   | 1831 |
| Elijah Foote       | "     | A. H. Joy         | '37  |
| Benj. Bessell      | '01   | Titus Snell       | '37  |
| Seth Cushman       | '04   | H. A. Fletcher    | '38  |
| A. Judson          | '06   | J. S. Roby        | '44  |
| Peter Converse     | '06   | John Nichols      | '44  |
| Daniel Cobb        | '09   | R. C. Benton      | '51  |
| Samuel A. Pearson  | '10   | D. G. Peabody     | '52  |
| John M. Tileston   | '10   | Henry Heywood     | '60  |
| E. Hinds           | '11   | Geo. W. Hartshorn | '60  |
| Joseph Berry       | '11   | A. W. Tenney      | '61  |
| Thomas Denison     | '12   | Charles E. Benton | '69  |
| Zera Cutler        | '12   | Hermon Holt       | '72  |
| Charles Robinson   | '13   | Z. M. Mansur      | '74  |
| Samuel Ingham      | '18   | J. I. Parsons     | '74  |
| B. Davidson        | '18   | J. T. Gleason     | '77  |
| Nelson Chamberlain | '19   | R. N. Chamberlin  | '80  |
| J. W. Williams     | '20   | H. W. Lund        | '80  |
| Thomas Peverly     | '21   |                   |      |
| David Hibbard Jr.  | '22   |                   |      |
| S. W. Cooper       | '22   |                   |      |
| F. E. Phelps       | '24   |                   |      |
| J. M. Cushman      | '25   |                   |      |
| James Steele       | '27   |                   |      |
| Charles C. Cushman | '30   |                   |      |
| George Paine       | '31   |                   |      |

| POPULATION 1880. |             |          | GRAND LIST* 1885. |             |          |
|------------------|-------------|----------|-------------------|-------------|----------|
| TOWNS.           | GRAND LIST. | POPUL'N. | TOWNS.            | GRAND LIST. | POPUL'N. |
| Averill†         | \$275.50    | 48       | Granby            | \$735.53    | 194      |
| Bloomfield       | 1566.00     | 627      | Guildhall         | 1912.31     | 558      |
| Brighton         | 4899.00     | 1691     | Lemington         | 1021.97     | 222      |
| Brunswick        | 641.85      | 193      | Lewis             | 424.00      | ...      |
| Canaan           | 2247.65     | 637      | Lunenburg         | 4252.55     | 1038     |
| Concord          | 4875.86     | 1612     | Maidstone         | 1048.34     | 286      |
| East Haven       | 741.23      | 225      | Norton            | 1442.69     | 239      |
| Ferdinand        | 668.61      | 40       | Victory           | 1318.67     | 321      |
| Avery's Gore     | 106.00      | ...      | Warren Gore       | 365.10      | ...      |
|                  |             |          | Warner's Grant    | 45.00       | ...      |

The total population is 7,931 ; of which 7,916 are white, 10 are colored and 5 are Indians. There are 4,175 males and 3,756 females ; 2,311 males are over 21 years old.

#### PRINCIPAL VEGETABLE PRODUCTIONS.

Barley, 1,941 bushels; buckwheat, 18,696 bushels; corn, 8,547 bushels; oats, 92,697 bushels; rye, 336 bushels; wheat, 10,845 bushels; hay 20,831 tons; hops 7,752 lbs.; potatoes, 166,521 bushels; value of orchard productions, \$4,435.

#### LIVE STOCK AND ITS PRODUCTIONS.

Number of horses, 1,617; oxen, 792; milch cows, 3,050; other cattle, 4,489; sheep, 5,397; swine, 1,452; wool, 27,841 lbs.; milk, 22,653 quarts; butter, 310,333 lbs.; cheese, 27,150 lbs.

\*The Grand List is 1 per cent of the valuation.

†Averill, Ferdinand, Lewis, Avery's Gore, Warren Gore and Warner's Grant are unorganized towns and gores.

1917  
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K. FOLLANSBY



DR. JOHN DEWEY



DR. R. SMALY

## CHAPTER XV.

Various Genealogical Records and Biographical Sketches of Families and Individuals, some Deceased and others still living.

### GEORGE WHEELER.

Mr. Wheeler was one of the very first settlers of the town, coming in 1764. He came with David Page and others as a hunter and trapper, pitching his tent on the south side of "Fisk's Pond;" he followed this life for a few years, but finally became a farmer. He resided in town many years, but whether he died here we do not know. We are informed that there are no descendants of his living in the town or vicinity at the present time.

### COL. WARD BAILEY.

Col. Bailey, one of the 12 first settlers, appears to have been a very active and prominent man in promoting the interests and conveniences of the early settlement. He assisted in the construction of the first mills on the Mill Brook, and later built the first mills at the "village on the Connecticut. He also erected the celebrated "block house" already referred to. How long Col. Bailey remained in the town we do not know; but he was succeeded in the ownership of his lands by Hon. Eben W. Judd.

During the Revolutionary War Col. Bailey was probably the most active man among the settlers; he did much toward the protection of the people and property, and was also Commander of the "Rangers" which we have previously described.

## EDWARD BUCKNAM, ESQ.

Esquire Bucknam was one of the 12 first settlers: he was one of a committee appointed to survey the town into lots, and he and Mr. Thomas Darling performed that important service in the year 1787. There are probably no descendants of his in the town now.

## COL. JONAH GROUT.

Was one of the 12 first settlers, but we do not know in just what year he came to town: he was a man of some note among the people of those times, but we are unable to learn very much of him. The records say that a "dispute" arose between him and the proprietors; what it was about the records do not state. There are no descendants of his in the town at this time.

## REUBEN HOWE.

Mr. Howe, settled in town in the year 1779; we are unable to learn much of him. He at one time occupied the Pliny Rosebrook farm.

## SIMON HOWE.

Settled in town in 1779; he was a substantial and independent farmer and one of the pillars of the Church. He had quite a number of sons but they have, we believe, all removed west. One of his daughters was the wife of the late Mr. Anson Fisk, formerly of this town.

## SAMUEL HOWE.

Settled in town about 1780. His wife was the daughter of Capt. Eleazer Rosebrook; they had a large family and both lived to a good old age. He was for many years one of the most respectable, substantial and active citizens of the place. Mr. Howe died in April 1842.

## MICAH AMY.

Was one of the early settlers; he had, previous to coming to Guildhall, settled at Colebrook, N. H., but finally came to this place in 1775 and commenced operations where John W. Webb now resides. in Maidstone, he supposing this to be in Guildhall; but it turned out to be included in the "Governor's Right" of Maidstone, and he lost his claim and improvements. His sons, John, Wm., Micah and Caleb, settled in Guildhall, and brought up families, but they have mostly removed from town.

## WILLIAM AMY.

Known as Esq. Amy, was an excellent carpenter and millwright. His son William, also familiarly known as Capt. Amy, was a most valuable member of the Church; he died in 1845. His death was a great loss to the Church. The clerk of the Church in recording his death speaks of him as "a valuable and beloved member of the Congregational Church."

## CALEB AMY.

Known as Maj. Amy was one of the most active militia officers of those days, and a man of the greatest integrity. He married Rebecca, daughter of Benoni Cutler; they lived in town over 60 years and removed to N. Y. State.

## JAMES ROSEBROOK.

Mr. Rosebrook joined the settlement in the year 1775 and remained in town as long as he lived.

He attained quite a prominent position in the business affairs of the town, being entrusted with many offices of importance.

## CAPT. ELEAZER ROSEBROOK.

Capt. Rosebrook was one of the early settlers, locating in 1778, and first resided on the meadow of the John P. Dennison farm, and afterwards lived on what has since been known as the James Perkins farm. During the latter part of the Revolutionary War, he was a scout and ranger. At one time he, with a party, went into Canada on a reconnoitering expedition; but they were suspected of being spies, and upon learning this fact they at once vacated. They were closely followed and obliged to resort to means to deceive their pursuers. Coming to a stream near the head waters of the Connecticut, they built a brisk fire, and then extinguished it with water, then stepped into the stream and followed it for a mile or so, and by so doing left no traces by which the Canadians could follow them, also making it appear as though they had been gone some time. The enemy concluded upon reaching this spot that it was useless to continue the chase and so returned. "Capt. Eleazer Rosebrook made the first settlement at the site of the Fabyan House in 1792.

He opened there in 1803 the first house for summer visitors ever kept in the White Mountains. His son-in-law, Abel Crawford, long known as the 'Patriarch of the Mountains,' settled at Bemis Station in 1793. The latter's son, Ethan Allen Crawford, the most famous of the mountain pioneers, took Rosebrook's house in 1817. In 1819 he opened the first foot-path up Mount Washington. His brother, Thomas J. Crawford, opened the first bridle-path to the summit in 1840, and his father, then 75 years old rode the first horse that ever climbed the mountain."



## WILLIAM ROSEBROOK.

Came to Guildhall from Massachusetts; settled near the Allen farm in the south part of the town. He married Lydia Dodge; they had 17 children; ten lived to become heads of families:—Freeland, Eleazer, Dorothy, Esther, James, Lydia, Sarah, Amos, Pliny and Dexter.

FREELAND, married Mary Kilby and settled in Brighton, Vt., they had ten children.

ELEAZER, settled in Gouldsbrough, Me.

DOROTHY, married Abel Benjamin, had 3 children: Johnathan, Abel and Mary.

ESTHER, married Uriah Stewart and lived on the farm now occupied by I. Marshall; had three children.

JAMES, married a Miss Whipple; had five children.

LYDIA, married Wm. Amy and lived on the farm where Henry English now resides; had one child, now Mrs. Frank Keyes of Watertown, Mass.

SARAH, married John Crawford and lived on the farm now occupied by O. Crawford; had 4 children, Chas. Sarah, Erastus and Calvin, now of Watertown, Mass.

AMOS, married Hannah Camp and spent their last years in Guildhall; had 3 children that lived to adult age, Emily, Elbridge and Albert.

PLINY, married Elizabeth Amy and commenced farming on the hill, lived there two years, then moved to Burk, lived there 13 years; returned to Guildhall and spent the remainder of his days on the farm now owned by his sons William and Ashley; had 5 children, William, Elizabeth, Lydia, Ashley and Oril.

DEXTER, went west and died in Dubuque, Iowa. ]

## WILLIAM D. ROSEBROOK.

Son of Pliny Rosebrook, is now one of our smart and enterprising farmers. He has been prominent in town affairs and has for many years been a valuable member of the Congregational Church. He represented the town in the State Legislature for the years 1872 and 1873, and has held many other important town offices.

## HON. WILLIAM HEYWOOD.

Was born in Lunenburg, Oct. 6, 1804. His father, Wm. Heywood, came to Lunenburg from Charlestown, N. H. His mother came from Hardwick, Mass., her maiden name was Mary Egeny. His father was a farmer and Mr. Heywood lived with him until he was 21, laboring on the farm, except that he went to an Academy five fall terms, and kept a district school three winters. After he was 10 years old they resided most of the time in Concord. He began to study law with Hon. Charles Davis in Waterford, in the fall of 1826. Mr. Davis moved to Danville in 1828 and he went and studied with him there.

In the fall of 1839 Mr. Heywood went to Detroit, Mich., and lived there about a year, and while there kept a winter school and studied law a few months with Hon. Sam'l A. Fletcher; returning to Concord he was admitted to the bar at Guildhall September Term 1831.

Mr. Heywood began the practice of law at Lunenburg and remained there some four years, and moved to Guildhall in the winter of 1835 and took the place of John S. Wells, who then moved to Bangor, Me.

He was married to Susan Hibbard March 18, 1834, and she died March 10, 1881. His two living children are Henry and Isabel Heywood; one child died in infancy and Francis died in the army in the late war. Mr. Heywood practiced law and kept an office at Guildhall about twenty years. He removed to Lancaster, in the spring of 1856 and has been in practice there ever since.

While he resided in Essex County he was State's Att'y for 13 years, Senator for Essex County in 1837 and 1838, was a member of the Constitutional Convention in Vt., in 1851, when considerable alterations were made in the Constitution of the State. About the time of Pierce's administration he was a candidate for Representative in Congress and only failed of an election from the fact that the party to which he belonged being in the minority, Elden Sabin was elected against him.

Both in Vermont and New Hampshire he has been pushed by some friends as a candidate for the Supreme Court Bench, but since he went to N. H., he has sought no office. He is esteemed a very sound, thorough and highly respectable lawyer and has an extensive practice.

#### WILLIAM T. BARRON.

Although not long one of our townsmen, Mr. Barron was a smart, clear-headed attorney; he practiced at the bar of our Court from 1845 to 1848, and was a promising young lawyer, but to him the field seemed hardly large enough and he removed to Chicago, Ill., where he rose to the position of Judge; but very unfortunately, about 1860 he was killed in a railroad accident.

## ZEPHANIAH K. WASHBURN.

Born May 20, 1800 at Greenwich Mass. Father's name Daniel Washburn, who died at Guildhall May 27, 1841, aged 71 years 10 months. Mother's name Millitia Hooper Washburn who died at Guildhall, July 14, 1852, aged 78 years 5 months. He came to Guildhall with his parents March 1817, and has ever since resided in town and has pursued the occupation of farmer and lumberman. For a number of years he owned and operated the "Washburn saw mill" (so called) situated on the north road in Maidstone, and has always been a hard working, honest and worthy citizen, respected by every one; and when he shall have passed the dark river to that land of rest where he can be relieved from the cares and embarrassments that have been so constantly present with him in his long life of toil and industry, he will be able to do what but few men can do in this or any other community—leave a pure, spotless and irreproachable name. He is the oldest person in town, and the oldest member of the Congregational Church of Guildhall living. He was twice married; his first wife's name was Susan Cutler, by whom he had three children; she was born at Guildhall in 1804 and died January 20, 1832, aged 28 years. His second wife's name was Harriet Washburn who was born at Springfield, Vt., in Nov. 1804, and died at Guildhall April 12, 1878, aged 73 years and 5 months, and they had nine children, five boys and four girls. Both of his wives were in every way worthy to be the helpmeets of so worthy a man.

## DANIEL WASHBURN.

Brother of Zephaniah K. Washburn, was born at Greenwich, Mass., June 19, 1802, and came to Guildhall with his parents from Springfield, Vt., in March 1817.

His wife, Pamela Randall, was born in Springfield, Vt., Feb. 1806, is now living and is a remarkably smart, intelligent and industrious old lady for a woman of 80 years. They were married in 1826; had 11 children 7 boys and 4 girls, of whom 1 son and 3 daughters are now living. Mr. Washburn has followed the business of farmer and lumberman, until recently, when on account of his advanced age he was obliged to surrender and give up the lumber business, which he had industriously followed winters for a long number of years; he has probably handled a greater number of pine trees and pine logs in his day than any man now living in Essex County, and it is doubtful if there ever has been his equal in this particular branch of lumbering in this section, and what may be considered strange is that he did all this hard work, together with the perplexities and anxieties attending such a business, at a very small profit, if he ever realized any; for now in his old age, although not a poor man, he is not a man of as much worldly goods as he ought to have, had he received a decent compensation for the many years of hard labor he devoted to the business. He is 84 years old, and while his brother Z. K. is only two years older and is very deaf and almost blind, he is as athletic and young in appearance as men in general at 70, and it is to be hoped that he may be allowed to live many years in

health and prosperity, and at last when he shall have passed away he will have left an example of willingness to undertake and perform any labor however hard, without hesitation or flinching, whether he was working at a profit or loss. When he was a young man, it was the custom if a person wanted to go anywhere to "just step out and take a walk;" he walked 60 miles a day without the least trouble or weariness, and the writer has frequently heard him invite some young man to take a short walk with him just to see how they liked it, but as "discretion is the better part of valor" his invitations have not been accepted.

### JOSEPH BERRY.

Mr. Berry was a smart and talented lawyer, and was one of the early settlers of the town, for his name appears on the church records as one of the seven who first formed the organization of the church in 1799, and in 1803 he was a Deacon. He was Chief Judge of the Court in 1822, a member of the Governor's Council 1819, 1820, 1821, 1822, 1823 and 1824, State's Attorney 1811, 1812, 1815, 1816, 1817, 1818, 1821, 1823 and 1824, and represented the town in 1816. He removed with his family to Newbury, where he practiced law for a number of years when he removed to Iowa, where he died.

### HON. JOHN S. WELLS.

Between the years 1827 and '46, Mr. Wells was an attorney at the County Court, and most of the time Guildhall was his place of abode; he finally removed to New Hampshire, and was at one time a prominent politician.

## JUDGE DANIEL DANA.

After the foundation has been laid and all made ready, then the corner stone is to be laid, and Judge Dana can fitly be called the corner stone of Guildhall and the County of Essex. He was the great man of the times, coming from the State of Connecticut to Guildhall about 1795. He was the first Judge of the Essex County Court, and filled that important office for eleven years in all; he was also Judge of Probate for 10 years and represented the town in the State Legislature 8 years; he held many other prominent town and county offices.

He united with the Congregational Church in 1803, and was chosen Deacon in 1813. He had a numerous family none of whom are residents of this vicinity at the present time. He finally moved to New York State in 1816 and died about 1837 in the town of Pembroke, some 8 miles from Batavia, Genessee County, and his death took from the world a man who had once been one of Guildhall's most noble citizens. Of his grand children living are Mrs. Mary C. Dewey, widow of the late John Dewey, and Mrs. David H. Beattie; a grandson Hon. Charles A. Dana has been very prominently connected with national affairs, and the large daily papers of New York City, and is now proprietor of the famous "New York Sun."

## COL. E. H. WEBB.

While in Guildhall he lived on the farm now occupied by A. A. Gray and was a good farmer, industrious man and good citizen. He moved to Lancaster, N. H., about 1870 where he died.

## STEPHEN AMES.

Became a resident of Guildhall in the spring of 1812, and lived on what is known as the Perkins' farm, until April 1886 when he died. Mr. Ames was a very economical, industrious and prudent man, a good citizen, and ever ready to lend a helping hand to those in need; and no one ever asked him to contribute to any worthy object and was refused.

## COL. ISAAC CUMMINGS.

Was born in Wenham, Mass. Oct. 18, 1799; moved to Northumberland, N. H., in 1806. He came to Guildhall when 15 years old to work as an apprentice at saddle and harness making with Col. Henry Hall.

He was married in 1822 to Ophelia Perkins of this town, daughter of Z. Perkins a tanner by trade; they had four children, two sons and two daughters; his oldest son Mr. Henry K. is a prominent merchant in San Francisco, Cal., the second son Isaac resides in N. Y., the oldest daughter Kate, (Mrs. Barclay) lives in San Francisco, and the second daughter Sarah, (Mrs. Merrill) died in 1867 at San Francisco. Mrs. Cummings died in 1855.

Col. Cummings was married the second time in 1857 to Hannah T. Young of Stewartstown, N. H., and had five children, four sons and one daughter; one of the sons died at the age of six years, and another at the age of 11 years.

From about 1822 Col. Cummings kept hotel 14 years. He was engaged in military affairs, and was promoted to Colonel by which title he was thereafter known. He held many offices of trust: Postmaster, Judge of Probate, Clerk of the Court of Essex County. He united with the Metho-



dist Church in 1843, and was an official member up to the time of his death Oct. 11, 1880.

### BENONI CUTLER.

Originally came from Connecticut, he was a soldier in the French and Indian war, and a Captain in the Revolution, at about the close of which he came to Vermont, first moving to Windsor, but in 1784 he came to Guildhall; he first resided on the meadow where Mr. Rice 20 years before had first commenced, being on the farm owned by Wm. and H. Heywood. He remained there 3 years and then purchased the 12th settlers' lot and the 300 acres grant to Osgood and Bailey, including the mills, then on Spankings brook. He was one of the first Justices of the Peace, and almost always held some town office; he was also one of the 7 persons composing the church organization in 1809; he lived to be over 60 years of age and died in 1806; was buried in the north burying ground, being among the first buried there. He had a family of 7 sons, viz: Charles, Theophilus, William, Joseph, Royal, Erastus and Zara; and 2 daughters Rebecca and Lucy.

### CHARLES CUTLER

Resided in town many years; was prominent and active in public affairs of Town and Church, holding frequent offices of responsibility. He moved west, with most of his family, where he lived to be over 90 years of age.

### THEOPHILUS CUTLER.

Resided in town most of his life; was smart and rather distinguished as a constable and collector of taxes; had a family of 5 sons and 3 daughters. He died, being over 80 years old, at Lunenburg.

## WILLIAM CUTLER.

Was an enterprising man ; he was chosen Deacon of the Congregational Church in 1810, and held that office till he died.

## JOSEPH CUTLER.

He was a smart young man, but died early in manhood leaving no family.

## ROYAL CUTLER.

Was born in 1778 at Windsor, and was about 6 years old when his father came to Guildhall, and from the time he came with his father until his death he lived in town. He was a very trustworthy and smart man; he held many public offices, being Town Clerk, Selectman, Treasurer for a great many years, delegate to the Constitutional Convention, Justice, Assistant Judge of the County Court and Judge of Probate; he was also identified with the public interests of his fellow citizens in all branches during his entire life. He died in 1856 in his 78th. year.

## ERASTUS CUTLER.

Was a man highly esteemed by the Church and society, possessing the confidence of all, being repeatedly honored by his fellow-townsmen and the Church, of which he was a deacon for 13 years. He was a very great help in sustaining meetings for religious worship on the Sabbaths, during the times in which the church was without a preacher; he left one child now the wife of Hon. Wm. H. Hartshorn. Mr. Cutler died Apr. 1832 in his 49th. year.

## ZARA CUTLER.

Was born in Guildhall in 1786, and was a lawyer; he

went to Conway, N. H., where he died March 1861 being 75 years old. He was a very able and prominent lawyer and had a large and lucrative practice in that vicinity.

Rebecca Cutler married Caleb Amy. Lucy Cutler married and finally went to N. Y. to reside.

#### MILTON CUTLER.

Was a prominent citizen, holding many offices. He was Assistant Judge of the County Court for the years 1866 and 1862. About 1861 he wrote a sketch on the history of Guildhall for Mrs. Hemenway's Vt. Gazetteer, which was very nicely gotten up and his work should be appreciated much more than it apparently is. He moved to Illinois Dec. 13, 1865. July 9th. 1885 he and his family made a settlement at Jetmore, Hodgeman Co., Kas., by entering a quarter section as a homestead.

#### NATHANIEL SHAW.

Came to town in 1838; he has been a farmer most of the time and for a long time owned and operated the aqueduct, which supplies the village with water.

#### THE EMERY FAMILY.

Joshua and Hannah Emery came to Guildhall in March 1846, moving on the "Call place" now owned by A. M. Grout; there were 7 children, 4 boys and 3 girls, one of the daughters being born after they came to town. The children were; John P., George C., Stephen W., Louisa L., Warren D., Elizabeth H., Elsa A. and Adeline H.

George C. died January 10, 1856 aged about 25 years.

John P. married Misa Louisa Sanderson in 1855; they had 7 children; he died in April 1884.

Stephen W. married Betsa Amy of this town; they have had 6 children; 3 died in infancy and 3 are now living.

Warren D. married Ruby S. Hendrick of Concord; they have 4 children, 3 boys and 1 girl.

Louisa G. married John F. Hartshorn and lived in Canaan, they have 1 boy.

Elizabeth H. married Marvin Fletcher of Canaan, and after his death married Charles Weeks of Canaan; has 4 children.

Elsa A. married John Carby of Lunenburg; they have 2 children living, and 2 have died.

Adaline married John Flanders of Canaan.

Joshua Emery lived on the Call farm 5 years, and then moved on the Bothel place where he lived until his death in 1869; his wife Hannah died in 1876. Stephen W. and Warren D. now live on the Bothel place.

#### HARDEN WILLARD.

Came to this county very early and settled in Maidstone; he was a young man at that time but finally removed west.

#### HUBBARD WILLARD.

Youngest son of Harden Willard, was born August 24, 1829, became a resident of Guildhall in 1866.

Miss Mariette Follansby became his wife March 5, 1856. Their children are,—Mrs. C. E. Hubbard, George and Mary; this last child died when 21 months old; a brighter little girl never lived in Guildhall. Mr. Willard has held various town offices and in other ways been prominent in town. He is considered an influential, honorable and trustworthy citizen; is a carpenter and joiner by trade, but now owns a farm on the north road and is spending most of his time taking care of and working his farm, which by his ability and industry he has made one of the best and most productive in the town.

## DR. JOHN DEWEY.\*

BY HON. WM. HEYWOOD.

Was one of the remarkable men of Essex County. He was born at Hanover, N. H., Dec. 5, 1794. He received his education in his profession mainly under the tuition of Dr. Nathan Smith; and his medical degree from Dartmouth College. He commenced his profession very young in Canada, remaining there till he was attacked with a disease in his eyes, which for a time threatened him with blindness. Recovering from this infliction, he established himself at Hill, N. H., and about 1822 came to Guildhall. For nearly twenty years he was the leading physician in this section. Here he became a practitioner of large experience and great skill and judgment. No man was more relied upon in case of difficulty and danger.

He gave up his profession as a business about 1846, upon becoming involved in business of other kinds. He married Mary P. Carlisle, Feb. 1832. In 1841 he moved to a beautiful farm in Maidstone. Here he and his wife kept a most hospitable home; and many have been the times that acquaintances far and near have assembled there to enjoy such entertainment as no one else could dispense,—for the Doctor besides his liberality, had the manners of an accomplished gentleman; and he was also a man of fine proportions and presence. The stranger also from city or country who might chance to stop in the neighborhood was sure to be invited to partake of their hospitalities. And there was no ostentation in this, but

\*This sketch was originally written by Mr. Heywood for Mrs. Hemenway's Gazetteer. As we give it, it is considerably abbreviated.

such generosity was a characteristic, and the poor never went hungry from his door,—many have been the bags-full and the basketsfull and the back loads with which the destitute of his neighborhood have been loaded \*from his stores. Dr. Dewey was a man of extraordinary perseverance and great energy of character. In politics he was a whig, and later a republican, and it never was with half assent that he supported and advocated the measures of his party.

He was a member of the State Legislature for twelve years. He was Assistant Judge 1826, '7; a member of the council of censors, and for several years he received appointments from the Legislature, such as director of the state prison, etc. The Doctor was able in debate, and many of his speeches would be a credit to any debater and worthy of any legislative body.

Dr. Dewey entered into the support of the government with zeal to put down the rebellion, and lent every aid in his power to that end.

On a summer evening he rode to the house of a neighbor where in course of a talk upon political affairs he became excited, not from opposition (for in political opinion they did not differ,) and on his way home he was attacked by a paralysis of the brain, and when he arrived home he was insensible, and was carried into the house and died the next morning, which was July 11, 1862, and no man in all the community could have been more widely missed.

## MR. CHESTER W. SCHOFF.

Was born in Brunswick, August 26, 1832, and came to reside in Guildhall in 1848. When he was 24 years of age he married Malinda Green and they reside in the village. They have had 3 children; Ella, who died while quite young, Nelly A., born in 1864, Charles, born in 1866.

Mr. Schoff is one of the leading men of the town and county; he has at various times filled to the great credit of himself and the people of this town, many important offices.

## SAMUEL R. HALL.

Mr. Hall was an early settler and a prominent man; he came from Cornish, N. H., and was long known as "Deacon Hall;" he was a practical surveyor and was much employed in surveying roads, etc. He removed from town about 1812 and became a preacher at Rumford, Maine.

He had several sons and daughters brought up here.

JOSIAH B. son of S. R. Hall was a smart farmer, but he removed with his family to Ohio in 1834 where his children were educated.

## COL. HENRY HALL.

Was an early settler. For many years he carried on a very extensive saddle and harness business. He was quite prominent in town and military affairs. He represented the town in the State Legislature for the year 1834.

## FRANK HALL.

Col. Henry Hall's grandson and oldest son of the late Henry S. Hall formerly of Northumberland; was born Aug. 1844. He came to Guildhall when he was 8 years old and has made this town his home most of the time since.

For quite a number of years he has had a store in the village, doing an extensive business. He is an influential citizen and is Post-master for the Guildhall office. Jan. 1875 he married Sarah A. Russell; they have 2 boys living, Fred N., and Harlie S., and one son died in infancy.

#### DAVID KENT, JR.

Was born in Canterbury, N. H., Sept. 28, 1795, and when he was 22 years old he went to Stewartstown, N. H. where he resided some 40 years. He came to Guildhall in 1857 and lived here until his death Sep. 1st, 1882. He was 3 times married, and father of 4 children.

Mr. Kent was a soldier in the war of 1812.

#### W. H. LEITH, M. D.

Born at Haverhill, N. H., in 1859; was educated at the common schools in that town and at the Academies at Plymouth, N. H., where he led his class. He then went into Dr. S. P. Carbie's office at Haverhill. He took his first course of lectures at Burlington in 1881; was President of class in 1883 and ranked among the very first in the class. He located in town in 1884, and has been very successful in the practice of his profession, and it is hoped that he will see fit to make Guildhall his permanent residence.

#### REV. CALEB BURGE, A. M.

The Rev. Caleb Burge, first pastor of the Congregational Church of Guildhall, was born in Springfield, educated at Middlebury and came to Guildhall when he was about the age of 30 in the year 1808, and was installed pastor of said church on the last Wednesday of August of that year.





REV. CALEB BURGE



He was of the Calvinistic school, and was the founder of the church in Guildhall, being the author of their creed and articles of faith. His labors were to establish the church in the soundest orthodoxy; believing it indispensable that a church should be firmly grounded in the Faith.

It was during his ministry the greatest revival ever in town, or as it is termed the "great revival" occurred, and in the year 1816 over 70 joined the church, 41 being admitted on one day. His labors with the church were very successful and the loss was a heavy one to the place when he was dismissed, the reasons for which we have given; this was Feb. 16, 1814; he went from here to Brattleboro, from there to Glastenbury, Conn., then to N. Y. State. We learn that while returning from a funeral at which he had preached the sermon, he was thrown from his carriage and instantly killed, and what is a singular thing his text was—"Be ye also ready, for in such an hour as ye think not, the Son of Man cometh."

In person, Mr. Burge was tall and powerful, and while he resided in town he not only preached, but owned and occupied a farm. He produced a work entitled "Burge on the Atonement," which was at that early date considered equal if not superior to any that had been written upon the subject.

#### REV. JAMES TISDALE.

Second pastor of the Congregational Church, was from Taunton, Mass. He graduated at Brown University in 1821; studied theology with Rev. A. Cobb, of Taunton.

His first labors in this part of New England were in the

capacity of a missionary, preaching in Burke, Granby and other places about a year. The Guildhall church gave him a call and Sep. 29, 1830 he was ordained pastor, and continued that relation until May 5, 1836.

He was considered a faithful pastor and was very successful; during his ministry, 28 were added to the church. He went to N. H., from there to Ill. He died Feb. 28, 1863.

#### REV. FRANCIS P. SMITH.

Third pastor of the Congregational Church; a native of Gilmanton, N. H., was educated at Dartmouth, and was in his younger days a lawyer. He finally became a licensed preacher and for two years supplied the pulpit at Epsom, N. H.; he came to Guildhall October 1837, and remained in town occupying the same position until May 1844. Mr. Smith was one of those men while a lawyer, could truthfully be called an "honest lawyer," remarkable for his uprightness and integrity; as a man artless, amiable, social and friendly, as a Christian pastor, meek and zealously engaged in promoting the spiritual and temporal interests of the church and people. He was instrumental in advancing all interests of education, and whatever would serve the welfare of the people was his delight.

"He in some degree fell a pray to the malice of some whose errors and enmity his zeal and faithfulness corrected or reproved, and in his moral character was most villainously traduced and grievously wronged." The church did not uphold and sustain him as it should have done, and it is a noticeable fact that from that day to this, it has not enjoyed *anything* like its former prosperity.

After leaving here he went to Maine where he was engaged by the Maine Missionary Society for years.

Says the council, in dismissing Mr. Smith, "We rejoice that, among the reasons assigned why brother Smith's pastoral relation should be dissolved, nothing was presented derogatory to his Christian character, or his standing as a minister of the Gospel; and could cheerfully recommend him to the churches of Christ as a faithful, devout and worthy minister." By his labors 67 were added.

#### REV. IRA BEARD.

Came as pastor of the Methodist church in 1844, which was then in its infancy; his charge extended from Lancaster bridge to Heriford, Canada. They had no church then, and meetings were held in the old court house.

Mr. Beard had a wife and one child at that time, and his receipts all told for the first year were \$108.; he wrote in a recent letter, "Rather small pay, the boys of the present day would think. but, O! if I could only strip off my coat now and put into the work as I could then how quickly I would do it, pay or no pay."

#### GOV. GEORGE N. DALE.

The subject of this sketch was born at Fairfax, Feb. 19, 1834, and lived in Waitsfield, from six months to 21 years of age. He was educated scantily in the common schools and attended Thetford Academy 2 or 3 years, during which time his limited means compelled him to pursue only those branches which he regarded as the most necessary and beneficial in the practice of law, which profession, very early in life, he had determined to follow. He read during the time required in the office of Messrs Dillingham & Durant.

He was admitted to practice at the March Term, 1856, of the Washington County Court. In December of the same year he borrowed money to defray his expenses and came to Guildhall. Here he formed a partnership with Hon. Wm. H. Hartshorn, which continued about two years. He soon became very much attached to the place and people, and did a growing business until 1861, being State's Attorney during most of the time. He was elected Representative of Guildhall in the Legislature in 1860 for the purpose of opposing the dismemberment of the County, and took part in the memorable session of April 1861. In June of the same year he was appointed Deputy Collector of Customs and took charge of the Port of Island Pond which position he held until 1866 when he was elected to the State Senate to which he was re-elected in 1867, 1868 and 1869. In the year 1870 he was elected Lieut. Governor and in 1871 he was reappointed Deputy Collector of the Port of Island Pond, which position he resigned in 1882. In November 1885 he was elected President of the Vermont Bar Association.

On the election of Judge Steele in 1866, Gay. Dale was substituted for Judge Steele in the firm of Steele & Robinson under the name of Dale & Robinson, having an office at Derby Line, and Barton. Soon after he formed a partnership with B. F. D. Carpenter Esq., having an office at West Charleston, and continued in connection with them for several years, having his office at Island Pond, where he now resides, and does a large and profitable business and is regarded as one of the ablest lawyers now living and in active practice of the law in the State.

## HON. ISAAC CUSHMAN.

Was a descendant of Robert Cushman who came to this continent in the Mayflower. He came to Guildhall early in this century and located at the south part of the town. He was Judge of Probate from 1815 to '22.

Mr. Cushman in his old age went and spent the remainder of his days with one of his sons at Troy, N. Y.

## GEN. SETH CUSHMAN.

Previous to coming to Guildhall, Gen. Cushman resided with his father, Hon. Isaac Cushman, in Connecticut, and was at the time of his father's settling in Guildhall studying law with an acquaintance in Vermont, and when he was ready to try for admission to the bar, Guildhall was recommended to him; he came to town and was in 1804 admitted to the bar and continued his residence with the exception of one year until 1845 when he died, at the age of 63. Gen. Cushman was a very talented man and probably few men possessed a greater amount and variety than he, and had his moral and religious principles equalled his natural abilities, he would have been the pride of the place and his friends and a bright ornament of the Church and his State. He was entertaining at home, in the social circle, at the bar, and as an officer in the field.

At the bars of most counties in this part of the country he was the peer of such men as Hon. John Mattocks, James Bell and Isaac Fletcher, all "giants of their time."

Hon. James Bell,\* in addressing the jury of Orleans County Court in a case where a mother was on trial for the murder of her own child, as he stood up in the dignity of old age, and casting his eyes along the vacant places inside the bar, where were the wonted seats of his "fallen brethren," he said:—"May it please your honor, and gentlemen of the jury: I stood among giants, though not of them; my comrades at the bar have fallen. Fletcher! the

\* Mrs. Hemenway's Vt. Gazetteer, sketch of Wadden.

untiring and laborious counselor, the persuasive advocate, the unyielding combatant, is where! Eternity echoes, here!

Cushman, the courtly and eloquent lawyer, the kind and feeling man, the polished and social companion and friend, where now is he? The world unseen alone can say."

Gov. Geo. N. Dale, in a letter to the author, says of Gen. Cushman: I understand him to have been a man nearly 6ft. in height, full size very erect in form and bearing, a man most decidedly accurate and a *plumb* in this respect, of most genteel and elegant appearance, and with faultless manners. In all that I have heard of him, I find no memory of a rough or vulgar expression of him, which always seemed singular when we consider his reputation for somewhat questionable gallantry. As an advocate I understand him to have been of the very finest type, very choice in the use of language and having a wonderful faculty of eliciting the sympathy of his auditors. His efforts seemed to have been temporary in their influence and effects which seem to have passed away with the occasion that produced them. I have heard such men as Judge Redfield, and Judge Smalley relate instances in which he had rescued clients from defeat in court in a manner scarcely, if ever, equalled in Vermont. His efforts before the Legislature, among which is one urging the commutation of a death sentence to imprisonment for life, are said to be the very finest ever made in the State.

Hon. Wm. Heywood\* says of him: He was a man of remarkable forensic talents. He was not a deep student of the law, but his knowledge was sufficient to enable him to manage a trial skillfully. I never knew a lawyer of more resources. His perceptions were quick; almost without an effort he would understand a case and I have known him to sit down to a jury trial without instructions and render

\*As we go to press with this chapter, we receive from Hon. Wm. Heywood a very interesting sketch on the life of Gen. Cushman; we have made room for part of it, and wish we could print all.



efficient aid. He was a brilliant advocate; he was a very successful lawyer in the defence of criminal prosecutions.

I recollect that in a very important jury trial he and Judge John Mattocks were engaged in the defence and Gen. Cushman made the opening argument. After he had finished Judge Mattocks arose and said that Gen. Cushman had so argued the case that he should do best to say nothing, and he sat down. Gen. Cushman was a man of handsome presence of accomplished and gentlemanly manners. He was always kind and ready to aid the younger members of the profession. He was a man of deep sympathies. He would aid a poor man with no expectation of pay with as much zeal as though he was sure of a large fee. Guildhall was and is yet a small village and a very narrow field for a distinguished man with such talents as Gen. Cushman possessed. He had the ability to have distinguished himself in a much greater field. But he also had failings which were a clog upon his success. A year before he died he had a paralytic shock, and though he got up so as to be around the village it was sad to see him, the wreck of an able man. He was many ways a man to be admired.

#### H. N. ALLIN.

Came with his father, Matthew Allin about 1840, and became the owner of a large tract of farming land, and at one time was the most extensive farmer in town, but could not be contented with farming business alone and embarked in the lumber business about 1870, an occupation in which he was entirely unacquainted, and about 1874 he failed for a large sum, went into bankruptcy, and left town. He now resides in the State of New Jersey.

#### DANIEL KEITH.

Came to town about 1832 residing on the hill, but in 1852 he removed to the valley and for years operated the farm now carried on by his son Charles. He was a leading citizen in town. He died in 1861.

## DANIEL KEITH.

Son of Daniel Keith, was born July 1831, and has resided in various places but is now living in the village.

He married Miss Thankful Jackson who keeps a millinery and fancy goods store.

## DEA. CHARLES KEITH.

Was born in town, Aug. 29. 1833. He married Emeline M. Joslin, Oct. 14, 1874, and they live on the farm already alluded to, which is about  $1\frac{1}{2}$  miles west of the village.

He has almost continuously for a long time held the important town office of collector of taxes and for quite a number of years been one of the Deacons of the Cong'l Church. Dea. Keith is considered one of the clear headed men of the town, and the fact of his so successfully carrying out his ideas in public life amply proves the above statement.

## DEA. AZRO BURTON.

Was born in Norwich Feb. 28, 1813. He married Miss Sophia Morse at Bradford March 6, 1839; they moved to Guildhall in 1841, on a farm in the south part of the town, where he now resides. They had three daughters; Addie D., born July 21, 1841, and married Col. E. R. Kent, of Lancaster, Jan. 1862; Emily S., born Feb. 29, 1844, resides at Lancaster; Ella M., born Jan. 6, 1849; she died quite young. Mrs. Burton died March 27, 1861.

He married Miss Jane P. Freeman, Feb. 18, 1869.

Dea. Burton united with the Cong'l Church at Norwich in 1839; was chosen one of the Deacons of the Church at Guildhall in 1856; he has held most of the offices in the town, some of them every year for 10 years; he never had occasion to sue any one and was never sued, and has always lived in peace with all his neighbors.

## CALEB CALL.

Came to town from Hartland about 1805; his son Simon was about 15 years of age when his father came and they both thereafter lived and died in town, residing on Guildhall hill.

## NELSON CALL.

Born in 1840 and lived on the hill until 1875 when he moved to the beautiful farm in the southwest corner of the village where he now resides. He married Martha A. Stone in 1860. Mr. Call has always followed farming as a business, in which he has been successful.

## JONATHAN POOLE.

Was born in Orford, N. H., Oct. 27, 1812. When he was quite a young man his family moved to Piermont, and it was at this place that Mr. Poole first commenced to learn the trade he so successfully followed until his death Sept. 21, 1885. His stay at Piermont was comparatively a short one for soon after he removed to Haverhill, and there resided until he was 29 years old.

He married Miss Abbie Ann Ames Oct. 31, 1841; they resided at Farmington, Me., most of the time and came to Guildhall in 1857; their children are: Wm. A., born 1843, Benj. F., born Oct. 1, 1846; he was so sadly drowned May 27, 1873; Rufus K., born July 16, 1856; Addie M., born July 14, 1861. Mr. Poole was liked by all, although not so prominent in political affairs as some men, he always used good judgement, and his remarks or views on public matters carried great weight with them.

## RUFUS K. POOLE.

Is one of the active young men of the town; he has at various times held a number of town offices, and the prospects are that he will turn out to be a prominent man in town. Feb. 10, 1880, he married Miss Carrie M. Adams. He is a blacksmith at which trade he is a good workman.

## LAURENS A. GRANNIS.

Was born March 27, 1863, and Nov. 20, 1836 married Martha Cole; they have had five children, viz:

EDWARD, born Feb. 30, 1837. He served in the war of the Rebellion. He married Hannah C. Knight in Apr. 1866, and removed to Lancaster, N. H.

TIMOTHY, born June 1841; he was in the late war; he died at Washington, D. C., January 31, 1862.

JOHN, was born July 8, 1848. He is one of the smart and capable farmers of our town.

HARRIET ELLEN, born Nov. 9, 1850. She became the wife of J. G. Morrow in 1880, and resides at Lancaster.

MARGARET ALICE, born Oct. 4, 1852. Miss Grannis is one of the noted school teachers of this section and her equal is hard to find.

Mr. L. A. Grannis and family came to Guildhall from Claremont, N. H., January 5, 1861, and located on a farm purchased of Moses Rodgers on the river road, in the south part of the town on which he now resides.

Although engaged in farming pursuits Mr. Grannis has always been deeply interested in public affairs, and his labors to promote the good management of the town have been amply rewarded, for he has enjoyed the confidence of his townsmen to quite a degree. He has for many years held, among others, the office of superintendent of schools. A man of large experience and a thorough knowledge of school matters, kindly disposition and most decided will, he has made an indelible impress upon school management, and his administration has formed a standard to which the efforts of his successors will continually be referred. He has given great attention to improving the schools of our town, and his system is clearly proving to the people, his peculiar abilities in these, as well as matters in general.

## CALVIN HUBBARD.

Came to Guildhall in 1817. He with his son Horace resided on the north road. He was the oldest person who has died in the town; Sep. 1854 aged 93 years and 5 mos. His wife died in Sep. 1857 aged 93 years and 2 mos.

## HON. HORACE HUBBARD.

Came with his father Calvin Hubbard in 1817, commencing to clear land and farming on the north road.

He was a successful farmer and left when he died the farm now owned by his son John. He was a man of considerable public spirit and held several offices, among which he was Assistant Judge of the Court, and represented the town 1831 and 1840. His wife's name was Elmira Woods and they had four children; Maria, George, Ann Eliza and John.

## GEORGE HUBBARD.

Born August 23, 1815. He married Miss Lois Hall in 1847, she died in 1863. His second wife was Frances White whom he married in 1864, she died March 1873. Lucy Rickards his third wife he married in 1875.

His children are Thomas H., Horace E., Mary L., Herbert and Milston. Mr. Hubbard is a prominent man in town, he has, in years past, been the leading merchant of town; being very successful in the business. He represented the town in 1857, and has held other town offices.

## THOMAS H. HUBBARD.

Son of George Hubbard; born Feb. 21, 1850. He resided in town for quite a number of years, being a merchant, but finally removed to Watertown, Mass.

He is engaged in the wholesale paper business at Boston, being one of the leading salesmen for the firm of Pulsifer, Jordan & Pfaff, one of the largest and best paper houses in the United States.

## HORACE E. HUBBARD.

Born April 20, 1854. He married Miss Edith A. Richards May 6, 1879 and they reside in town. He is an enterprising and capable man, and keeps one of the stores in the village which he has successfully managed for the past few years.

## JOHN HUBBARD.

Youngest son of the late Hon. Horace Hubbard, carries on the farm which his father did before him, on the north road. He is one of the leading farmers of the town.

He married Susan D. Massure July 2, 1846. Their children are: Calvin H., Oelia P., George A., Charles E., Ann Eliza and Harry. Mr. Hubbard married Harriet Woodbury March 20, 1860. Their children are, Lois M., Lilla H., William D., Ernest A. and Mabel H.

## BENSLEY P. COBB.

Born Jan. 23, 1810; came to town in 1855, and resided here, with the exception of one year, until his death, Jan. 5, 1880. He was twice married; his first wife was Emily Black whom he married in 1832. His second wife Martha A. Foss, born in Strafford, N. H., Nov. 22, 1822 he married May 7, 1840; they had 8 children, the three youngest being born in Guildhall.

## HON. RICHARD SMALL.

Hon. Richard Small was born in Linnington, York County, Maine, September 30th, 1808. He resided there, and in the adjoining town of Buxton, till 1845. He made several voyages in a sailing vessel to the West Indies while a young man. He was married to Abba A. Jose, April 30th, 1834 at Buxton, by Rev. Levi Loring, pastor of the Congregational Church, at Buxton Centre.

Mr. Small, although bred a farmer, kept a country store about five years in Linnington, and afterwards about four years at a place called Scarboro Corner, in York County.

In March 1845, Mr. Small and his father-in-law, the late Mr. Alexander Jose of Buxton, purchased the General Seth Cushman farm in Guildhall, nearly opposite the village of Lancaster, N. H., and removed there the same month, going from Buxton to Guildhall, through the White Mountain Notch. Mr. Small and his family travelled the entire journey in one of the, so called, Concord stage coaches of the olden time. He was justly regarded as a leading citizen of the town and county. He represented Guildhall in the Vermont Legislature for the year 1855. He was also assistant judge of the Essex Co. Court in 1867 and 1868. At different times he worthily held nearly every important office his fellow town's-men could bestow. Judge and Mrs. Small united with the Congregational Church in Lancaster, soon after moving to Guildhall, and he continued one of its most active, faithful and devoted members to the end of his life. He was a thoroughly upright and christian gentleman, highly esteemed by a large circle of relatives, neighbors and friends. In politics, Mr. Small was a whig, in early life, and afterwards joined the republican party, when it was organized, to which he remained thoroughly attached until he died. No kinder hearted man or better neighbor ever lived than Richard Small.

He died August 28th, 1882, leaving his estimable widow, his daughters Mrs. Sallie Burnside Ray wife of Hon. Ossian Ray, and Mrs. Abbie S. Porter of Lancaster and his sons Dr. Horatio N. Small and John C. Small of Portland, Maine, to lament the loss of an affectionate husband and father.

HON. PUTNEY R. FOLLANSBY'S  
FAMILY RECORD, ON HIS FATHER'S SIDE.

Records show that the family was a Norman family who followed the fortunes of the Duke of Normandy in his successful conquest of England in 1066. Thos. Follansby, his great grandfather, emigrated to America in 1750; settled at Newburyport, Mass. : served in the French war; was in the battle of Lake George in 1758 and assisted in the building of fort Wm. Henry; he was a carpenter and ship-builder. He had 3 sons: Wm., Benjamin and Samuel. Benjamin, (Mr. F's grandfather, ) a carpenter by trade, came to Hill, N. H., about 1800 and died there in 1836. He left a large family : had 3 wives and children by them all; his first wife, (Mr. F's grandmother, ) was a Peabody, from Danvers, Mass., and a relative of the late Geo. Peabody the London banker. He had 4 sons and 1 daughter by his first wife : Thomas, John, James, Willard and Ruth. James, his father, was born in May 1800; he married Ruth Rowell in 1824 at Bradford; moved to Hill, N. H., where resided till 1827, when he went to live with Mr. F's grandfather Rowell in Bradford, where they lived till 1839. Mr. Rowell for many years had what was then called the "western fever," and when he sold his farm it was with the expectation of going west; but it seems he got over it.

In the fall of 1838, Mr. James Follansby and Mr. Rowell visited Essex county; they were so well pleased that that James Follansby purchased the Wm. Rich farm in Maidstone, which is the third farm on the river north of Guildhall. They moved in March 1839; Putney's grandfather died there in 1845, and his grandmother in 1849.

His brother, Jasper Hazen, born 1828 and died 1812; his sister, Maryette, (Mrs. H. Willard,) was born 1833.



## FAMILY RECORD, ON HIS MOTHER'S SIDE.

His great great grandfather's name was Thos. Rowell, who was born in Amesbury, Mass., subsequently moved to Warner, N. H., where his great grandfather Aaron Rowell was born in 1740; he came to Bradford where he died in 1816, leaving his large farm to his son Aaron, (Mr. Follansby's grandfather,) who married Polly Putney, daughter of John Putney who went into the Revolutionary Army at the commencement of hostilities; was with Gen. Montgomery in his ill fated expedition against Canada and fell with that brave commander at Quebec in 1775.

His grandfather had no sons, but 9 daughters all lived to old age; two yet survive, Mrs. Sally Hutchins of this town, and Mrs. Hannah Colby of Albert Lee, Iowa; his mother's name was Ruth, born at Bradford and died at Maidstone, March 1865.

## HON. PUTNEY R. FOLLANSBY.

Born in Hill, N. H., July 25, 1826; was the oldest son. He married Amanda Lucas Johnson Oct. 16, 1849, she was born May 1828. They have lived in town since the spring of 1876. Of their children, two died in early infancy. Lois H., born May 1851, died in Oregon Mar. '84. James L., born Feb. 1854, is a merchant at Stayton, Ore. Fara A., born Dec. 1859, married T. A. Chase; resides at Derby Line. Nellie M., born '63, died '64. Kate C., born Apr. '67 and Fred L., born Sep. '70 both reside at home.

Mr. Follansby is a surveyor of land and lumber for the lumber companies which operate on the Conn. river. He is one of the prominent men of the town and county; has repeatedly held offices; has been justice most of the time since 1850. He represented Maidstone in 1852-3-8-9-62-3; was County Commissioner 1854-9; represented Guildhall 1876-7; was Judge of Probate 1879-80, being elected on the democratic ticket, and the district was very strongly republican, a fact which speaks highly of him.

## JUDGE DAVID HOPKINSON.

Was a native of Molbury, Mass., and Sarah Kennedy Hopkinson his wife born in Haverhill, Mass., came to Guildhall in April 1776, and drew their two children, Joshua who was then 3 years old, and David who was 10 months old, on a moose sled from Haverhill, N. H., and on their arrival, pitched upon the place where Wm. Hopkins now lives for their home. They cleared up the land and made for themselves, and their children a comfortable and prosperous home, and from which no deserving needy one was ever turned. He was a man of good capacity and was very prominent in public affairs: he was Chief Judge of the Essex County Court for the years 1812-15.

They had 10 children, viz: Joshua, born April 1773, died May 1839, he married Mary Monroe, they lived on the farm where he was first taken off the moose sled, the greater part of their lives, and labored faithfully to provide for the wants of themselves and children, Wm. A., and Mary, (Mrs. Wm. Hopkins.) Mrs. Hopkinson died March 18, 1836.

## HON. DAVID HOPKINSON, JR.

Born July 8, 1775 and landed in Guildhall in April 1776, where he lived until he removed to Derby where he died Nov. 8, 1837. He married Dorcas Hugh born Nov. 1780, died Nov. 1863. They had 9 children: Russell, Portia H., Guy, Isaac, John H., Ann, Sarah, Dorcas and Portus. He was a very influential citizen, a man of first class ability and "acted well his part" in whatever place he was chosen by his fellow citizens, or appointed by the Government to fill, and the name of Hon. David Hopkinson is one that his childrens' children can look upon with great pride and veneration. When he lived in town he owned and occupied the lot known as the "Governor's Right," being a part of the land taken by his father when

he came to Guildhall in 1776, and where his widow resided at the time of her death Nov. 18. 1863.

HENRY born Oct. 1777 went to Ill., where he died.

JOHN, born Oct. 1779 died in infancy.

SALLY, born Dec. 1783 died at Compton, P. Q.

ISAAC, born Apr. 1785 died at sea.

NOYES, born Feb. 1788 died at Derby.

POLLY, born May 1792 died in infancy.

POLLY, born March 1795 died in Canada.

FRANCIS, born July 1796 died at Guildhall July 31, 1817. Of all the number, not one who bears, or ever bore the name of Hopkinson is at the present time living in town, excepting Mrs. Wm. Hopkins.

#### JOSHUA HOPKINSON.

Born Apr. 1773 and was brought to Guildhall when 3 years old, and ever after Guildhall was his home till the time of his death May 1839. He was a farmer and he and his brother owned and occupied the "Governor's Right," and adjoining lots. He was a man of good ability and during his life held many offices of trust in town. He married Mary Monroe a native of Keene, N.H., born Mar. 1775, died 1836. They had two children: Wm. Aldrich, born 1808, went to N. Y. where he died, 1860: he had 3 sons and 1 daughter: Benjamin, Wm. D., and Henry. Benj. went to Paris, Mich., Henry died young. Wm. D., is a resident of Paris, Mich., and by the kindness of his aunt Mrs. Wm. Hopkins we publish part of a letter which shows the necessity of town histories and family records being kept, as well as information which the present residents and those who shall take their places can look at with great pleasure, feeling that an influence has gone forth from the dear old town that is doing good not only for the present but for the future.

"Paris, Mich., May 26, 1885.

David Hopkinson, Esq., Derby, Vt.

Dear Sir:

My father died when I was eleven years of age, about 25 or 26 years ago, and knowing that he came from Vermont I write to you to ascertain if possible, some information in regard to my ancestry. My father Wm. Aldrich Hopkinson died at Corning, N. Y. Being left homeless I went on the Erie Canal for two years, saved my wages, went to school, finally to College at Poughkeepsie, N. Y. Came west, taught school many years, and now have the superintending of 87 schools. My father was well educated and followed civil engineering; helped to survey northern Michigan in 1842, being then in the U. S. Survey.

What I want to know is, can you give me information that may enable me to trace my geneology back. I have a dim recollection of many things my father said of Vermont."

Mary, the daughter, married a Mr. Smith and resides in Michigan. It would be gratifying if we could publish more in relation to the Hopkinson families but must leave it for some of the descendants, who can if they see fit gather the information, and cause to be kept a very interesting family record.

#### WILLIAM HOPKINS.

Born at Cabot, June 7, 1810, and came to Guildhall in 1832: he married Mary Hopkinson, daughter of Joshua Hopkinson, and has lived on the farm that Mr. Hopkinson occupied during his lifetime. Mr. Hopkins is a good farmer and a hard working, industrious man.

He and his wife both got severely injured by a collision on the Grand Trunk Railway, a number of years ago, and both of them have suffered very seriously from it, although at the time the Railroad Co. tried to make it appear that they were dishonest in claiming damages, but after an expensive law-suit they got a small sum.

Time, and their lame and crippled condition in their old age shows which were in the right, they, or the paid agents of the R. R. Co. They are the parents of 5 children, all now living: Joshua F., has a family and lives in town; he married a daughter of the late Carr Wilson. John lives in Lancaster, and owns and keeps the "Williams House" of that place. Charles, has always lived with his parents and now carries on the farm, and is an industrious

citizen. Mary O., married a Mr. Wilson, and resides in Mass. Abbie E., married a Mr. Hartshorn and has always resided in town; she now lives with her parents, having as the Court decided, a just cause for a divorce from her husband.

#### CAPT. SIMON SMITH.

About 1826 Capt. Simon Smith, who was a native of Plainfield, moved to Maidstone, and settled on what was at that time called the "Worcester Bow." His family consisted of a wife, 3 sons and 3 daughters.

After living there a number of years—during which time most of his children married and settled in different parts of the country—he sold his farm and moved with his youngest son Frederick W. to Guildhall, on the farm now owned by Nelson Call.

#### FREDERICK W. SMITH.

Was married in 1847 to Miranda, daughter of Oliver L. Woods of Northumberland. In April 1853 Mrs. Smith died, leaving one daughter, Mary Minerva, then five years of age. Mr. Smith resided in Guildhall until his death in June 1881, at the age of 64 years.

Capt. Simon Smith was of rather a roving disposition, and it is related of him that he a number of times in his younger days journeyed west with his family with a view to settle there, but would become discontented and return; this was before the days of railroads and these trips were made with a team of horses or mules, and once a number of valuable cows shared the journey. Frederick was of a different turn in this respect and though at various times in his life he had occasion to travel through the greater part of Me., N.H., and Vt., and was a man of much observation and profited thereby, he was strongly attached to the home of his adoption. The family were all of a social disposition and possessed to a greater or less degree a vein of humor which rendered them particularly genial and companionable.

## HON. REUBEN W. FREEMAN.

Was born in Norwich, May 22, 1785, and came to this town June 2, 1819. He married Betsey Stockwell March 26, 1812; of their children Ezra Selden and Phebe Jane wife of Azro Burton, are the only ones now living in town.

Mr. Freeman was one of the great men of his time, occupying many offices of trust. He was representative in 1835 and 1839; Assistant Judge 1833-4, and Judge of Probate 1852-3. He was a very capable farmer and left when he died an excellent farm on the hill. He died June 27, 1866.

## EZRA SELDEN FREEMAN.

Son of Hon. R. W. Freeman resides and carries on the farm his father had so successfully operated before him.

It will be hard to find a man who can equal him at farming, and we shall pronounce him the best farmer in town at the present time; our statements can very easily be proven by a personal visit to his farm and then to any other in the town. He has one of the finest barns in this section, in which is a very fine silo 20 feet square and 30 feet deep with a capacity of 400 tons. Mr. Freeman was born March 28, 1825 and married H. Lucila Aldrich, March 12, 1868.

## CHARLES F. WHITING.

And family came to Guildhall and located in the south part of the town opposite Lancaster, on the Connecticut River, March 1868. Mr. Whiting was born at Lisbon, N. H. Feb. 1822, and married Augusta A. Bedell Nov. 1848; their children are: Stephen A., born 1850, Abbie B., born 1852, (she married C. L. Blood in 1877; they reside in Lowell, Mass.) Harry born 1854 died 1862 at Littleton, Charlie E., born 1857 died at Guildhall 1881, Mary L., born 1862, resides with her parents at Guildhall, Bertha N., born 1866, also resides with her parents.

## HON. WM. H. HARTSHORN.

A son of Colburn Hartshorn formerly of Lunenburg. He was born Feb. 10, 1819; he was educated at the common schools and academy, and located in town May 2d. 1842. He studied law with Hon. Wm. Heywood and was admitted to the bar, but by reason of other business, never practiced his profession to any extent. He has enjoyed the confidence of his fellow-citizens of the town and county in an unusual degree. He has constantly been in office and has generally succeeded in meeting the approbation of his friends. He was an officer in the State Legislature 1846-7-8-Assistant Clerk of the House 1857-Represented the town 1858-9-78-9-State Senator 1854-5-Co. Clerk from 1848 to 1863-was elected Town Clerk in 1863, which office he now holds-was Judge of Probate from 1866 to 1878 and Register of Probate under Hon. P. R. Follansby 2 years-was Post Master from 1861 to 1878-Member of the Constitutional Convention of 1870-was door keeper of the Senate in 1880, until on account of ill health he was obliged to resign-was elected Assistant Judge of the County Court in 1884 which office he now holds. He owned and kept the Essex Hotel from the spring of 1866 to '82, when he sold it to his son Charles E. Hartshorn. He was married June 22, 1842 to Delia L. Cutler, daughter of Dea. Erastus Cutler, and has always had a pleasant home, which is very much to her credit as well as his. They have 3 children: Addie D., who married E. F. Palmer, Esq., of Waterbury, reporter of Vt. Supreme Court, at the present time. Clara M., married Joseph M. Poole of So. Paris, Me., who owns and keeps a hotel at that place. Charles E., married Miss Ada Beede and owns and keeps the Essex Hotel, as above stated; he is doing a profitable business and keeps a very good house. (page 135.)

## HON. EBEN W. JUDD.

Came to this part of the country as a surveyor, and located in Guildhall, the exact year we cannot give. He surveyed the line between Guildhall and Maidstone in 1788, and also surveyed other towns along the Connecticut River about that time. He was the most prominent surveyor of these days and he did more to smooth over the hard feelings which existed between the settlers and the proprietors than any other man. He certainly resided in town in 1796, for June 20th. of that year a town meeting was held at his house.

Hon. Eben W. Judd was the most public spirited man who has ever lived in the county, and was without doubt one of the best, most prominent and honorable citizens of the town. He succeeded Col. Ward Bailey in the ownership of the land now comprised in the village, or what was once known at lot No. 1 of the twelve first settlers' lots. He had the road, which is now Main Street in the village, laid out 6 rods wide, for a mile from the common, which common in 1797 he gave to the county, on which to build a Court House, Jail and for a common, (which we have previously spoken of on page 196.) He did not give a deed of this land to the county until 1821, in which is the following:

“Middlebury, } Consideration \$1 . . . . .  
 June 6, 1821. } Acknowledged before Samuel S.  
 Philips Justice of the Peace. June 18, 1821.

Easterly  $\frac{1}{2}$  of lot No. 1 on the north side of the River Road leading down through said town of Guildhall meaning to convey that part of said lot which lies east of a line extending parallel with and from the westwardly end of the new Goal House in said Guildhall to the aforesaid River Road, for the purpose of a common and no other.”

He moved from Guildhall to Middlebury where he was engaged in the marble business, residing there until his death.





HON. EBEN W. JUDD.

## DEA. ROBERT CHASE.

Son of Robert and Eliza (Jewell) Chase was born at Pelham, N. H., in 1830; came to Guildhall in 1865 and with his brother Joseph bought  $\frac{1}{2}$  interest in the water privilege and mills on both sides of the Conn. River. In the spring of 1873 they disposed of their interest in the mills on the Vt. side of the river and took the peg mill and paper mill on the N. H. side, which business they carried on in company till the death of his brother Joseph, and from that date he carried on the business alone, till he took his son Chas. D. in as a partner in 1877. He has, since he took the mills on the N. H. side, rebuilt the paper mill, and repaired the peg mill, so that they are two of the finest and best equipped mills of their kind and size in New England. He has lived in the village of Guildhall since 1865, having bought the "Steele house" (so called) which he remodeled and virtually rebuilt, using nothing but the *pine frame* which was put up about 1806, and which today is as sound and perfect as it was the day it was raised; he has the best and most finely arranged house in town, if not in the county, which could be said without casting any slurs on the other houses in the county. He has always attended to his own business in person, (and has not had the time, or seemed to have the inclination to attend to other folks' business,) and of course, has made his business a success; has given employment to a large number of men and women in his mills at good wages, and a number are working for him now that commenced with him in 1865. He has always been very liberal in giving to all charitable objects; has been one of the deacons of the Congregational church since 1868, and has shown his earnest love in his large contributions in

supporting and carrying on the work, and sustaining the church of which he is a consistent and faithful member.

He married Susan Davis in 1854, a lady of fine ability, who has done her share in making a happy and comfortable New England home, and at the same time has found time to aid every worthy effort to advance the welfare of the community in which she has lived so many years, and when she and her husband shall have to lay down the burdens of this life it will be a great loss to the town, as the writer thinks he is the most energetic and thorough business man who has lived in Guildhall since 1865.

They have one son who was born at Lawrence, Mass., in 1855, who is in company with his father.

#### JOSEPH CHASE.

Brother of Robert Chase, was born in 1832; was a machinist by trade. He went into the army and served as heretofore referred to; came to Guildhall in 1867 and was in company with his brother until the time of his death in May 1873. He was a man of fine personal appearance, and a practical level-headed business man, and every one lost a friend when he was so sadly and suddenly taken away from this life when in the full enjoyment of mental and physical strength.

#### MADAM ELIZA (JEWELL) CHASE.

Came to Guildhall with her sons Robert and Joseph, and has resided in town ever since, and all who have known her will not think it strange that her sons should have been energetic and capable men, as she is one of the best women who ever lived in this or any other community, and it is the earnest wish of all that she may be allowed to bless this community with her example and kind acts for many years.

## ELIJAH FOOTE.

Was one of the first attorneys who located at Guildhall, and his name appears first upon the court docket. He was a very able lawyer, and had a large practice while he lived in town. He was a highly esteemed citizen, and represented the town five years. He went from here to western N. Y. where he lived until the time of his death.

## CHARLES G. BARRETT.

Born in Vernon, Conn. in 1835; came to Guildhall in 1864; he followed the occupation of farmer for a while, but the last few years has worked at the trade of joiner and carpenter. He married Amanda J. Richardson of Newbury in 1858; they have one child living: Nellie L., born Apr. 1860, she married George E. Morse and resides at Lancaster. Mr. Barrett has held the offices of Lister, Selectman and Justice at different times, to his credit as a faithful and impartial officer. His religious belief is of the Second Advent faith, and he has without doubt, spent more time studying the Bible than any one of his age in this section; he is a consistent believer in the faith, which he is ready on all proper occasions to declare without fear, favor or hope of reward, further than shall await every faithful Christian. On account of the state of his health he has been deterred from entering upon the work of a minister of the Gospel, which he has by his friends been urged to do, but his health has been such that he could not, and has had to forego a calling which he has the talents to perform with ability, as he has an easy and pleasing way of speaking, which a few only are allowed as a natural gift.

## JAMES BOYCE.

Mr. Boyce located in Guildhall in 1841 selecting the north road locality as the place for his home, and at once commenced clearing land, and at length succeeded in obtaining one of the best farms in that part of the town. He was a good citizen and lived in town until his death.

## JOHN H. BOYCE.

Came to town with his father when quite young and resided here until his death. He owned and occupied the farm on which his brother Geo. S. now lives. He was a very industrious and upright citizen.

## GEO. S. BOYCE.

Was 14 years old when he came to Guildhall with his father, and he now resides on the old farm on the north road. He has held town offices at various times. He married Fannie S. Lamkin in 1854, and their children are: Guy, born in 1856, a shoe dealer in Boston. John, born in 1862, also in Boston. Sadie, born 1870, is at home.

## DR. N. S. BOYCE.

Came with his father from Newbury when he was 12 years old. He has resided in town since, we believe. He is a professional man, having practiced medicine for quite a number of years. Not being furnished with facts which were respectfully asked for, we are not able to publish more about him.

## J. Q. PEABODY.

Came to town 1836 and resided on the "Burge farm." He married Lorinda M. Seaver in 1838. He died 1873. Their children are: John Q., Thomas H., Lucy M., Frank M., Arthur J., Chas. E., Geo. A., Joseph D., Lorenzo L., and Etta A. All the children living have removed from the town.

## ORANGE SCOTT HENDRICK.

Son of Henry and Loisa Hendrick was born Sep. 10, 1846 at Concord, where he resided till Sep. '61 when he enlisted into the United States Service, Co. "D" 1st. Reg. Vt. Cavalry, and served till Nov. 19th. '64 when he was mustered out and received an honorable discharge. He returned to Concord and remained till March 20, '65 when he re-enlisted for one year into the U. S. Service, Co. "I" 7th. Reg. Veteran Volunteers, and served 11 year. At the close of the war, in the spring of '65 this Reg. was stationed at Schnylkill Arsenal Philadelphia, where he served as Past Quarter Master until the expiration of his term of enlistment, when he was again honorably discharged and returned to Vt. During his service in the U. S. Army he was in 72 different engagements. He was captured with 14 others of his Reg. at Hagerstown July 6, 1863 by Stuart's rebel Cavalry, when his Reg. with the union forces were trying to cut off Lee's retreat after the battle of Gettysburg; he was taken to Richmond and confined in Libby prison and Belle Isle till he was paroled Dec. 27, '63, and sent to Annapolis, Md., where he remained till the spring of '64 when he joined his Reg. and went with Grant's army to Richmond and Petersburg.

He was so fortunate as to escape wounds, which would seem almost miraculous, as the 1st. Vt. Cavalry was, for a long time opposed to Mosby's celebrated "Guerilla" Reg. of Cav.; they had a number of hard fights with that rebel force, which was more dreaded than any other equal number of the rebel army. It appeared to be Mosby's greatest desire to capture the 1st. Vt. Cav.; it was also *their* chief object to do the same to him, but neither side was able to accomplish what they so long and persistently tried to do, and both organizations were in good fighting condition at the close of the war.

Mr. Hendrick came to Guildhall in 1867 and purchased the "Cutler farm," which he carried on till 1877; he has since followed the business of painting and mason work in which trade he is one of the best workmen in this vicinity. He is an exemplary member of the M. E. Church; an honest man, and it is hoped that he will make Guildhall his permanent home.

#### DAVID DENISON, ESQ.

Was born in 1756; lived in the south part of the town. He was one of the most prominent citizens during his life. Just what time he came to Guildhall we are unable to state, but he must have come in the early part of the settlement of the town, as his first wife, (Sarah Spaulding,) died here Aug. 20th. 1787, aged 30 years. His second wife was Anna Paine who was the mother of a wonderfully intelligent and smart family of children; (among whom was Ann, the wife of Hon. Anderson Dana, and mother of Hon. Charles A. Dana of N. Y.; she was one of the most talented women who ever lived in Guildhall, and had a large influence over the community, and will be long remembered for the good which she did; it can be said of her truthfully, "that she rests from her labor, but her works do follow her.") She died here Sept. 3d. 1849.

#### DAVID E. DENISON.

Was the most earnest worker in having the Congl. Soc. build its meeting house at the village in 1844 and it was principally through his efforts and management that it was done; he was a persevering and energetic man and will long be remembered by the influence for good which he exerted while here; he was born at Guildhall in April 1806 and died in Mass. 1848. He was twice married, his first wife was Esther Ann Goodrich a native of Hartford, Vt., his second wife was Amelia Nelson. His children 5 in number, and the only person in this section who ever bore the name of Denison is Mrs. Seth Meacham, who shows by her efforts for good that she has a right to claim and be proud that she is a daughter of David E. Denison.

## HON. JOHN P. DENISON.\*

Son of David and Anna Denison, was born at Guildhall in 1809 and resided here on the same farm on which his father lived till Mar. 1860, when he sold the farm and removed to Lancaster where he lived a few years and then went to Kan., where he died a few years ago. He married Mary Cooper a lady of very fine presence and ability, a daughter of Hon. Jesse Cooper of Canaan. They had two sons and two daughters: Chas. P., is a railroad conductor in Kan.; Henry E., has been in Japan for a number of years in the employ of the United States Government.

Judge Denison was a farmer while he lived in town, and was an energetic, honest, upright man, was a consistent member of the Congl. Church, and a republican of the strongest kind, being one of the founders of the party in Guildhall. He was a man very decided and positive in what he believed to be right, and he had the courage of his convictions, and did not stop to consider on the question as to whether any popularity was to be gained or not, and of course he had strong friends and some enemies, as a man of his ability and positive notions always has, but as the wheel of time rolls on he is judged and respected for the integrity of character, and honesty of intention, while those who at the time were finding fault and questioning the purity of his motives have dropped out of sight and are forgotten, as all unprincipled, unscrupulous persons ought to. He left a good example for the inhabitants to follow, with one exception, which was that in his willingness to assist others he was deceived and betrayed in the confidence he had in those he assisted by the use of his name, by which means he lost his property and left town a poor but honest man, and it will be a long time before the town will see his like again.

\*This sketch is not written on hearsay but by the dictation of one who knew him personally.



## HENRY MEACHAM.

Born Sept. 7, 1799 at Charlestown, N. H. He followed the business of farming all his life, and was a good citizen; was married in Guildhall to Clarissa Cutler in 1819.

## WM. H. MEACHAM.

Was born in 1825; married Lydia M. Rosebrook; resided in Guildhall till the date of his death Nov. 18, 1862. He was a successful farmer, considering that he had but little capital when he commenced to do business for himself; the last few years of his life he carried on the "Fiske farm" to the satisfaction and profit of the owners, as well as his own. His wife was a very industrious, estimable lady and prudent housekeeper; she died June 16, 1879. They had four children, one son and three daughters: one of the daughters, the youngest, died only a few days previous to her father's death; the other two reside in Mass. the son Pliny W., carries on the same farm his father did. His second wife, Miss Orril Rosebrook, a sister of his first wife, now resides in Watertown, Mass.

## SETH MEACHAM.

Born Feb. 3, 1831; married Sarah Denison Aug. 1859. They have four children. He moved into the toll house at Northumberland in 1879; he previously lived in Guildhall.

## ASHBEL MEACHAM.

The youngest son of Henry Meacham was born Oct. 23, 1840. He was a brave member of the 1st. Vt. Cavalry; he was killed at Winchester, Va. May 25, 1862.

## AARON FISKE.

Born in 1778 and died in 1822, and Abigail, his wife born in 1778 and died in 1867, were the parents of Anson Fiske, who owned the Fiske farm, (one of the largest and most productive in town,) for many years; his wife Prudence Howe, was a daughter of Simon Howe, who owned the same farm during his life, was a model farmer and acquired a large property, and a man who never traded or attempted to make money in any other way than earning it by industry and hard work. Mr. Fiske was "off the same piece," and by industry and economy accumulated a large property.

He sold his farm and timber lands some ten years ago, and went to Haverhill, N. H., where he now resides. He has but one daughter living: Adeline, wife of Dr. Geo. O. Rogers, who came to Lancaster about 1866, a young man, and commenced the business of dentistry, with but little means excepting an abundant supply of pluck, which is said to generate true courage. He, by his industry, study, and economy acquired a lucrative practice, supported himself and wife without help from any one and after practicing his profession some dozen years at Lancaster, he took it into consideration that in order to do a business such as he wanted to do, he must go where there was more money and more people, and acting accordingly he went to Hong Kong, where in a few years he accumulated "his pile" and came back a year or so since apparently feeling that the wheel of fortune in his case had turned in the way he desired, and of his good fortune his numerous friends are not envious, but rejoice. He has one child, Anson Fiske Rogers, a promising young man.

#### HON. ORAMEL CRAWFORD.

Born at Guildhall April 8, 1803 and has always resided on the same farm where he was born; has followed the business of farming all his life. He has been a man of great influence in the town, having known every one who has lived in town during his lifetime, and being regarded as a man of the strictest integrity, of course, was during his active life constantly in office of some kind, not that he was an office seeker, but his services were demanded by his fellow citizens. His health has been very poor for the past few years, and he has been obliged to give up business matters almost entirely; it is earnestly hoped that he may recover his health and live many years to enjoy the respect which is due an honest man.

He is one of the members of the noted Crawford race, so well known and admired in the White Mountain region

for their integrity of character and blunt yankee ways, and a nobler specimen has not as yet been produced than Oramel Crawford. He has been twice married; his first wife was a Miss Buck of Charleston, N. H., who died young, and his second wife Miss Catherine Bothel, a native of Northumberland, was a woman every way worthy to be the wife of such a man, and their's while she lived was a model New England home; she died March 30th., 1883, aged 69 years. They had three sons; George O. who resides with his father and manages the business since his father's health failed, is an industrious citizen; the second son Harry, went to Watertown, Mass., where he is engaged in carrying on a large market-garden farm, and is a very energetic, prosperous business man, attending to his business and letting other people's alone; he married Miss Annie Rosebrook, a native of Guildhall, and didn't get cheated in the matter, for it is admitted that she is one of the nicest young ladies that was ever raised in Guildhall. The other son Fred, of Watertown, Mass., is a young lawyer, of good ability.

#### GREENIEF WEBB.

Born at Lyman, N. H., in 1794; came to Guildhall while a young man and carried on the mercantile business for a number of years; bought and sold timber lands at a large profit, and as a result accumulated a handsome property, and had it not been for the law suits which he indulged in, he would have left a much larger sum for his heirs than he did. He was sheriff of the county for a number of years and the most noted and efficient one that the county had ever had up to his term of office. He was sheriff at the time the land sale called the "Webb sale" was made which gave him a wide and extensive acquaintance and notoriety it having been claimed that this was the only good sale that had been made to that time, though it has lately been asserted that it was not a good sale, yet the

question as to its validity has not been decided by the Supreme Court of Vermont.

He was twice married; his first wife being a daughter of Capt. Simon Smith, she died May 1, 1849, and his second wife Susan Hall, widow of Henry Hall and daughter of Seth Eames Esq., of Northumberland; they were the parents of three children, only one of whom is now living; Seth Webb of Winthrop, Me., who is the owner of a hotel in that town. His second wife died July 1886.

#### THE HADLOCK FAMILY.

Hezekiah came to town about 1825 and lived where C. G. Barrett now resides; he died in 1855. His wife died in 1842. They had 3 boys and 3 girls: Cynthia Jane died in 1852; she was a very bright woman and exerted a great influence; it has been asserted that any person whom she disliked could not be elected to an office in Guildhall; her brother Elon G., was quite a politician in his day, and was on hand to execute any plans his sister directed; he died in 1866. Horace M., the youngest of the family was a cripple, never being able to stand alone after he was 15 years old, but he lived to be 65; he was a good scholar and the best penman who ever lived in Guildhall.

#### CHARLES RICH.

Son of the late Hon. Moody Rich, was born at Maidstone Oct. 5, 1813; lived with his father till 1851 when he came to Guildhall and bought the Elenzer Whitcomb farm, on which he has ever since lived. Mr. Rich is an industrious, hard working, honest man, and one of the best farmers in town. He married Diadama Willard, a daughter of Harden Willard in 1847. They have had six children, only three are now living. Willard, who resides in Delaware: Marshall, who resides with his parents, is a smart young man. The daughter married Mr. James Winslow and resides in N. Y. City.

## JOHN CHIESSMAN.

Came with his wife from Lancaster about 1873; bought the Basset farm on which with their son, John F. they have since resided. They are both industrious, hard working men. John F. married a Miss Masure, a lady whose parents resided in Guildhall for a number of years.

## WM. MORSE, ESQ.

Born at Concord in 1810; was a pedlar and sold dry and fancy goods through Caledonia and Essex Counties for a number of years, then went into trade at Lunenburg and did a good business, keeping an eight horse team on the road all the time hauling produce to the markets of Portland and Boston, and goods back for his store. But the custom of trusting out goods to any and every body proved disastrous in his case, and he was obliged to fail, for the reason that those he owed wanted and were determined to have their pay, while those who had received credit at his hands did not seem to care what became of him, provided they could evade the payment of the claims he had against them; afterwards he kept a hotel at Lunenburg Corner till it, with the out buildings were burned; this was about 1851. He went to Northumberland Falls and kept a hotel for a few years; then he removed to Maidstone and carried on a farm till 1868 when he came to Guildhall and built a house in the village, where he lived till the time of his death Dec. 3, 1878. Soon after coming to town he was elected a Justice of the Peace and was the trial Justice until he died, being one of the best, if not the best that ever performed the duties of that office in Guildhall. The writer remembers on one occasion, when a person had been complained of for violating the liquor law, and brought before him for trial, (although not a very great admirer of the law himself.)

After hearing both sides, he announced "that this respondent is here to answer to a violation of a law of the State of Vermont, and what the opinion of any man or set of men might be as to the law being right or wrong it is not a question I have anything to do with, but while it remained on the statute book, and I have anything to do as a magistrate I shall try and enforce it. I find the respondent guilty of two first offences, and adjudge that he pay a fine of twenty dollars and costs." At the next election this violator of the law tried to defeat Esq. Morse, but he was elected almost unanimously, and the job of trying to prevent his election as a Justice was never again attempted.

He was twice married, and his second wife died at Lancaster in Aug. 1886. He had two children by his first wife: Mrs Sylvester Poole, of Northumberland, and Mrs. Robinson, of Boston; and five children by his second wife, three sons and two daughters, the sons all went to Mass., one daughter married Sylvester Rich, a native of Maidstone and resides at Springfield, Mass., the other married a Mr. Wilson who died at Lowell, Mass. a few years since, she now resides at Lancaster.

#### BARNARD B. WAID.

Has been a resident of Guildhall for a long time. His wife was a Miss Bryant; they have two children, a son and daughter; the son Wm. W. lives with his parents; the daughter married a Mr. Couell and lives at Brighton. Mr. Waid has, since he lived in town, followed farming and has been fairly successful for a man who has had only a small farm to get a living from.

#### WM. S. WILLEY.

Was born in Lemington; married a daughter of Mills D. Webb who formerly lived in Guildhall. They have six children, 4 girls and 2 boys; all young and bright, and it is a very pleasant sight to see this family of children going to and from school, and it shows that these parents have a

right to feel proud and happy in their pleasant home. He carries on a small farm and also does anything that comes in his way by which he can earn an honest dollar. It would be well if the town had more such families in it.

GEO. A. FORD.

Came from Maidstone soon after he returned from the war of the rebellion; married Celia Hubbard and they have a large family of bright, active and industrious children. He is a hard working man and a good farmer; owns the "Call farm" on the hill, and is well situated.

WARREN R. MARSHALL.

Came to Guildhall a few years since and bought the farm on the hill formerly owned by Wm. H. Meacham. He is doing a prosperous business for a farm of it's size in a town so far from the markets where most of the products that a farmer has to sell now days are disposed of.

He is an active member of the M. E. Church; is one of the stewards, and at the present time chairman of the financial board.

ISRAEL DREW.

Born in 1785 and died in 1863. He married Lucinda Hopkins who was born in 1799 and died in 1883. They lived on a farm in the southwesterly part of the town; he was a good, quiet, well disposed and smart citizen, a man of no large property, but while he was able to work did the best he could to provide a comfortable home for his family. They had a large family of children, only two of whom are now living in town: Wm., who is a farmer and lives on the farm occupied by his father, and Mrs. Louis E. Webb.

JOHN B. DREW.

A son of Israel Drew by his first wife is a farmer. He married for his second wife a daughter of Mr. Jed Woods. He owns a farm in school district No. 2. Mr. Drew is an industrious man and is a very useful citizen, being one of the best furriers in this section.

## HUBBARD D. WEBB.

Was born in Guildhall; married Miss Abbie Jackson, and owns and resides on the J. Q. Peabody farm. He is a man of middle age; is industrious, and one of the best farmers in town. They have only one child, a daughter.

## MOSES ROGERS.

Born in 1803; came to Guildhall from Newbury in 1840 and lived on a farm in the south part of the town until 1861, when he moved to Northumberland, where he kept a hotel. He married Adeline Bayley in 1829; he died in 1864, and she died in 1869. Of their children: Adeline, went west in 1856 and married Timothy Allen; her present home is in Columbus, O. Estelle L., married H. T. Adams of Lancaster; they now reside in Hartford, Wis. Helen, went to Hartford, Wis., where she married Dwight Jackson in 1875. John B., went to Hartford, Wis., and married Emma Wheelock in 1873; he died in 1877. Robert, the eldest son was drowned in 1833.

## ABNER BAYLEY.

Came to Guildhall about the year 1852 and made his pitch on one of the wild lots in the west part of the town, and cleared up a nice farm on which he lives as happy, and apparently as contented as a king. He was a soldier in one of the Vt. Regiments during the war of the rebellion, and was so fortunate as to escape without having been wounded, but as he grows old he shows that the life in that war was anything but a pleasure excursion. He has had two wives; his first wife's name was Fanny, by whom he had 4 children; 3 of whom are now living: Mrs. Simon Stone of Guildhall. Henry E., of Guildhall, who is a farmer, and wood worker by trade, and is a good citizen; he married a daughter of John Hubbard; he is an active and consistent member of the M. E. Church. The other son: Benjamin, resides in Whitefield. His second wife was a Miss Hutchins, a very capable lady, who is one of the best nurses in cases of sickness about here.



## CHARLES J. FLANDERS.

Born in Guildhall in 1852; married Miss Helen Rickards in 1884, and they live in the village. His business for a number of years has been that of engineer for R. Chase & Co., at their peg factory; a position which requires a faithful, competent man, and as he has been in that place so long that the other help call him a fixture to the mill, which speaks sufficiently in his favor. He is a member of the M. E. Church, and now one of the stewards.

## HON. CHARLES E. BENTON.

Son of Samuel S., and Esther P. Benton, and youngest child of a family of twelve children. Was born at Waterford, Dec. 11, 1825; lived at home till of legal age; had the advantages of common school education, and attended St. Johnsbury and Lancaster Academies two terms.

He came to Guildhall April 5, 1860 and bought the John P. Denison farm of said Denison, and carried it on till March 16, 1866 when he moved to the village and has lived on the John Dodge place from Jan. 8, 1868 to the present time. He has, since residing in town held nearly all the town offices at various times; represented the town in 1856 and 1867; was senator in 1874 and 1875; appointed county clerk in 1865, which office he now holds; was a member of the republican state committee for 10 years. He married Adda Chamberlin, daughter of Abner and Mary Chamberlin, at Newbury, Oct. 21, 1856; they have had three children: Charles A., Everett C., and Jay B.

## CHARLES A. BENTON.

Son of Charles E. and Adda C. Benton, was born at Newbury August 12th., 1857 and came to Guildhall Apr. 5th., 1860; was educated in the common schools, Essex County grammar school and attended the St. Johnsbury Academy three years graduating June 1876. In the spring of 1877 he went to Lancaster and commenced

reading law in the office of his uncle, and under the direction of Hon. William Heywood, who took a great interest and pride in him. He was at Lancaster until the 12th. of August when he returned to his home in Guildhall sick with typhoid fever, and in spite of all that could be done by kind friends and a faithful physician he passed from earth August 20th. aged 20 years and 8 days.

Had he lived he had made arrangements to attend the law school at Albany, N. Y.

After he graduated at St. Johnsbury and before he went to Lancaster he spent his time in getting information and facts for the purpose of some time arranging, and perhaps publishing a history of Essex County, and much valuable aid has been derived by the author of this book from the labor and earnest zeal of this noblest one of the name of Benton.

#### EVERETT C. BENTON.

Born at Guildhall September 25th., 1862; educated in common schools, Lancaster Academy and Poughkeepsie, N. Y. Business College; was messenger in Vermont Senate 1878 and clerk to Secretary of State 1880; went to Boston in Feb. 1882 where he is employed in an insurance office. He married Miss Willena B. Rogers January 21, 1885, and has one child: Jay Rogers Benton. They reside at Waverley, Belmont, Mass.

#### JAY B. BENTON.

Born at Guildhall April 19th., 1870; attended Lancaster Academy, Essex County Grammar School at Guildhall, St. Johnsbury Academy two years where he graduated June 1885; taught school one term in district No. 1 in Maidstone, then he went to New York City and was employed as musical director and librarian in the Young Men's Institute till August 1886 when he left and came home for the purpose of entering Dartmouth College where he is at the present time.

## APPENDIX.

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A curious implement of "ye olden time" was recently found by Mr. Wm. Hopkins on his farm while plowing on his meadow. It is a small broad axe of a very curious pattern, about half way in size between an ordinary sized broad axe used by carpenters at the present time in hewing timber and a common hand hatchet. It is very peculiar in shape and nothing like it has ever been seen in this vicinity. It was without doubt brought to town by Mr. David Hopkinson in 1776 and although it must have laid in the ground many years it was in a remarkably good condition. It is now in the possession of the author by the kindness of Mr. Hopkins and is a very interesting relic and is prized as a great curiosity.

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There is an elm tree on the Wilder farm in this town, which, if it could tell its own story might relate a very wonderful and remarkable experience. By the stern and irrevocable law of gravitation when a tree falls, there it must lie, if not removed by some other force acting upon it, and yet there is evidence that this tree fell and is now standing. The facts seem to be as follows: about a quarter of a century since it was standing and was a fair tree; it was about twelve inches in diameter. On an evil day there came a fierce and irresistible wind and prostrated it to the earth. Here it remained for several months, when an old gentleman who was in search of a load of fuel to replenish his fire, (and what should be more alluring than the long and straight branches of the prostrate elm,) with his axe cut the tree asunder, leaving about twenty feet connected with the roots. which, in the prostration of the

tree, turned up a quantity of earth. When the spring came and the snow and frost melted away, behold, the tree arose and assumed an upright position which it has maintained ever since, and the marks of Mr. Bimis' axe where he cut the top away furnish incontestible evidence of the facts above stated. The tree is now in a flourishing condition and bids fair to withstand the storms and tempests of many a year to come.

L. A. Grannis.

We have the following very interesting story from a former Methodist Preacher of this town.

In the spring of '46 after all the old snow was gone, there came a storm and left about one inch of new snow. A farmer in the west part of the town went to his sugar lot to gather his sap buckets; when he got to his sugar-house a rough looking man sprang out of the door, and presented a pistol to his head, and demanded his business there. The farmer was frightened but finally told him that sugar lot was his, and he had come to gather the buckets. He questioned him for all the news, and among other things, asked him if he had heard about a murder in Manchester, N. H., and who they supposed had done it.\* Weil, said the man, I am not the murderer, but I have been in another scrape and am trying to get to Canada, and he should not leave the place till the snow went off, so no one could track him, and if the farmer attempted to leave, he would put a ball through him. He permitted him to gather his buckets, but kept near him, with his pistol in hand; about eleven o'clock the snow had disappeared

\*A prominent man, a collector of taxes in Manchester, N. H., by the name of Parker, was beset one night, and after a most desperate flight was overcome and cruelly murdered, a few days before, almost in the heart of that city. And to this day no trace of the murderer has been found, although, a large reward was offered, and great pains taken to trace him out.

and the man concluded it was safe for him to go on, and started off into the woods. As soon as he was gone and fairly out of sight the farmer started for his barn, and leaping upon his horse, rode to the village as fast as his horse could go, pale and excited he told what had happened, and the whole community was in a fever of excitement at once. A company was collected to go and head him off and arrest him if possible. They secured some teams and what guns and other weapons they could.

A Brother Reed, a very pious and good man, went with them: he had no gun but took his pocket Bible, and said if it was the Manchester murderer, he thought he would be more afraid of the Bible than he would of a gun.

They knew in order to get into Canada he must come out of the woods and cross the Nulhegan River on a bridge at its mouth, near where it empties into the Connecticut River, or cross on a bridge made by some lumbermen some five or six miles up the river in the woods; as the river was full banks at this time of the year. Leaving some men to guard the bridge at its mouth, they took an old lumber-road in the upper part of Brunswick which led to the bridge in the woods; they found it very rough, with trees blown across the road, making their progress necessarily slow, and night coming on, a part of the company lit their lanterns and started on ahead and left others to get along with the team as best they could.

There was a log house built by the lumber-men standing near the end of the bridge: when they came in sight of it they saw a bright light in it. They blew out their lanterns, and soon the light in the house went out, and they distinctly heard some-one run across the bridge.

They found in the house a tallow candle, some smoked ham and other articles of food. The gentleman had arrived there before them, and taken up his quarters for the night, and just skipped across the bridge. They thought it would not be best to follow an armed desperado into the open wilderness in the night, so they camped in the old house till morning and then started for their homes. They never heard who the man was, or what was his crime.

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Conspicuous for size and unrivalled for beauty stands the stately and majestic elm that adorns the front yard of the residence of the Hon. Richard Small late of this town. Although this tree has attained an immense growth, yet it evidently was not one of the denizens of the primeval forest, but has grown up since the advent of the white man: it has all the characteristics of a second growth tree. It is divided into branches near the ground; these are numerous, lofty and wide spreading, and furnish an umbrageous and grateful shade in the heat of summer, and present to every lover of the beautiful an object of admiration. It was near this tree where tradition says the first settlement of the town was made. When the old forest was cut away this peerless tree began to grow, and the rapid growth it has made furnishes substantial evidence of the fertility of the soil on which it stands. Its trunk is six feet in diameter in one direction and five in the other. There is nothing to match it in this section. L. A. G.

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As some parts of this book have been in print for some months it will be observed that a few changes have taken place since they were printed, these however are very few.

The Author.

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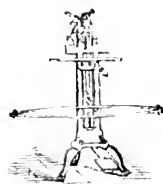
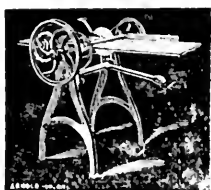
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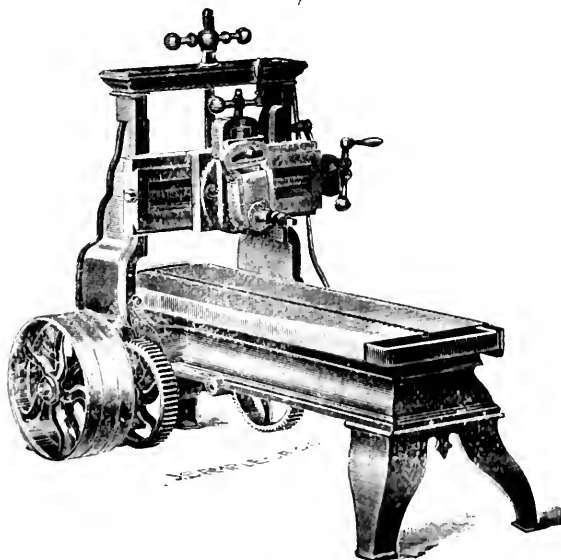
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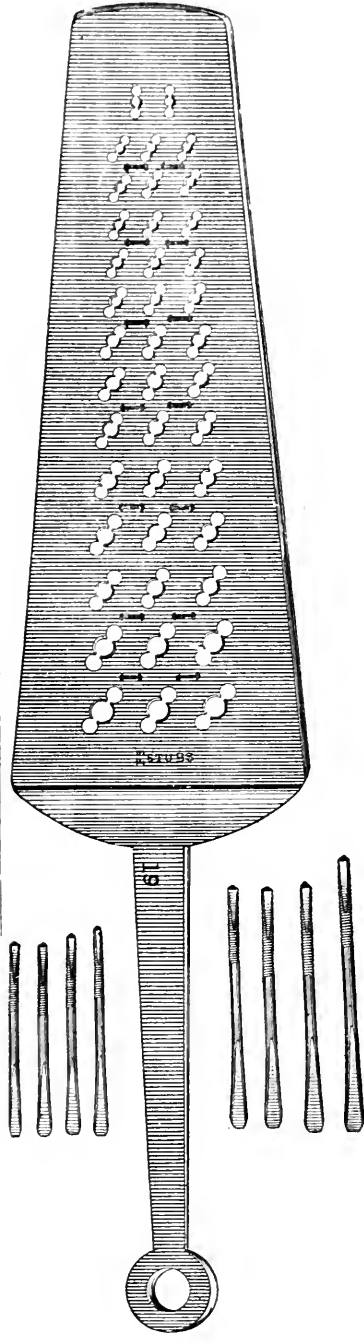


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